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Experts Hold Meeting on Production Cooperation Program

LD1410174493 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The first working meeting of experts on the Commonwealth countries' program for joint conditions and a mechanism to promote the development of production cooperation and direct links between enterprises and industries has been held at the CIS headquarters in Minsk. A draft of the relevant accord has been drawn up and agreed. In particular, the document envisages that the parties will not stand in the way of opening accounts in the banks of the agreement member states in accordance with the procedure and within the time frame stipulated by national legislations. Article 7 of the document points out that its signatories should refrain from demanding payment in freely convertible currency for goods supplied.

Republican Leaders Agree on Rational Use of Caspian Sea

LD1410194193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1845 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Astrakhan, October 14 (TASS)—Delegations of four former Soviet republics bordering on the Caspian Sea met on Thursday in the Volga city of Astrakhan to discuss joint measures aimed at the rational use of the Caspian Sea resources. The Russian, Azeri and Kazakh delegations were led by the republics' prime ministers, and the Turkmen delegation was headed by the republic's deputy prime minister.

Participants in the meeting outlined the main directions of joint activities in protecting nature reserves and natural wealth of the Caspian Sea, preserving the reproduction and optimal use of the marine flora and fauna, developing mineral resources in the Caspian zone with due regard for the interests of the four states, determining ecologically-safe navigable routes and controlling the sea level. A working group was set up to coordinate activities in these fields.

Participants in the meeting adopted a concluding communique saying, in particular, that the governmental delegations of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkmenistan, taking into account that the Caspian Sea should be regarded as a single ecological complex, displayed interest in "implementing joint programmes aiming at the rational use of the Caspian Sea resources". In doing so, they stressed their respect for each state's sovereignty and adherence to the goals and principles of dynamic and harmonious development of their economies.

Responding to a question from TASS, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said he was "satisfied with the results of the meeting", which tackled two most important problems, those of preserving and reproducing Caspian bioresources and of developing oil and gas offshore fields.

The sides "have reached full understanding" on these issues, the Russian prime minister noted. He also stressed the need for further development of Caspian mineral resources, taking into consideration that the Caspian Sea accounts for 90 per cent of sturgeons. To prevent possible damage, the developers should apply new technologies and attract foreign firms highly experienced in oil and gas production in shelf zones.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 14 Oct

LD1410084393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0824 GMT 14 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—Newspapers continue publishing items regarding the recent attempt at an armed putsch in Moscow and carry the appraisals of events by political and public figures, journalists commentaries and statements of eye-witnesses of tragic events at the Russian "White House" and the building of the Ostankino Television Centre.

"President Yeltsin has done what he should have done. He has carried through the routing of the opposition", journalist Sergey Yakovlev writes in the article "The Policy of War" published by "NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA" today. "Broad circles of the Democratic Party have long been calling him for this and expecting this. If he hesitated as were the cases in the past, he would have lost the support of most of his associates.

"The communist mutiny has been crushed", Lev Ponomarev, co- chairman of Democratic Russia movement, said in an interview to the newspaper ROSSIYA. "But we do not celebrate the victory. A national tragedy has happened in Russia. As to the anti-communist revolution, its first stage, 'the velvet stage', ended in August 1991. What has happened now were the death throes of the communist regime". Regarding the forthcoming parliamentary elections and the possibility of the opposition's participation in them, Ponomarev said: "It would be wrong to think that there will be no opposition at the future elections. The opposition is needed, and for the present administration especially since its actions are not very consistent. Since the extremists have been removed from the stage, the positions of the left centre represented by the Civic Union will strengthen".

Gennadiy Zyuganov, the chairman of the central executive committee of the Russian Communist Party, has a somewhat different view. He said to the newspaper ROSSIYA that "there is definitely a vacuum of legitimate power in the centre now". "Subjects of the Federation remain fully legitimate", the leader of the Russian communists believes. "Attempts to dissolve local councils, soviets, will not be successful, especially in national republics", he said. Regarding the October events, Zyuganov noted that in the opinion of the Russian Communist Party, the Army and the militia had a very important chance to address both branches of power and promote a success of the negotiations at the St. Daniil monastery under the auspices of the Orthodox Church.

"ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI" carries on its second page the list of parties, public movements and associations which can participate in the December elections. Their total number is 91. There are no parties and organisations on the list whose activity was suspended after the October events.

"I believe the Russian president was right when he proposed that all the local councils that have not changed their recalcitrant stand even after the bloodshed should be dissolved", Farid Mukhametshin, chairman of the parliament of the Tatarstan Republic, said in an interview with the newspaper ROSSIYA... "As to relations between Russia and Tatarstan, even though the situation in the country changed somewhat, no one gives up the advance to the market, the ideas of building a rule-of-law state and, ultimately, democracy. This has been and remains the basis for negotiations between the republic and the Federation, which will continue".

"Azerbaijan's entry into the Commonwealth of Independent States suits Azerbaijan's interests", Geydar Aliyev, the president of Azerbaijan, said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. He said in this connection the entry into the CIS does not mean that Azerbaijan gets under Russia's influence. The president said there are good ties with neighbouring Central Asian republics and said that relations of mutually-advantageous cooperation with Islamic Central Asian countries of the CIS will continue to develop effectively.

Unless Russia form its own large oil companies, mostly non-state companies, in near future it will be unable to compete with the West, believes Yuriy Shafranik, the Russian minister of fuel and power. The interview with the minister touching upon the problems of the fuel and power industry is carried by the newspaper "SEGODNYA", ("TODAY").

Russian Deputy Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha summed up the problem of the development of agriculture in an interview with "SELSKAYA ZHIZN". He believes the effectivity of agriculture should enhance as a result of production relations, so that there should be private ownership in the agricultural area, and also as a result of state support by the agroindustrial complex with rigid financial and economic terms encouraging effective work.

Press Review for 15 Oct

LD1510093493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0741 GMT 15 Oct 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 15 ITAR-TASS—"Russia and Japan are now united by common values—freedom, democracy, the supremacy of law and respect for basic human rights." This statement, made by President Yeltsin at the final press conference in Tokyo, reflects the main result of the Russian-Japanese summit talks, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA writes, assessing the recent official visit of the Russian president to Japan. "Now, when, according to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, a new page is opening up in bilateral relations, our nations can continue a more intensive dialogue, including on the summit level," the newspaper writes.

The latest tempestuous developments in the political life of the country showed vividly once again that whatever is taking place in Moscow, much depends on the attitude assumed by the regions. Pointing to this fact, NEDELYA writes in this connection: "Provinces, which did not have a word to say for themselves until recently, now prefer to take decisions by themselves, without taking into consideration the unstable and troubled centre. However, even traditionally 'calm' regions will not remain indifferent, when they face a real and horrifying threat of a civil war."

"The final alignment of forces is not yet clear," member of the presidential council academician Andrey Zhukov said in an interview with ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI. "It is clear, however, that the extremist forces, both left- and right-wing, have lost much of the support in popular masses. This is why they can hardly count on the massive support of electors."

In the opinion of Academician Zhukov, the recent developments objectively consolidated the trend towards the emergence in the political arena of more moderate, non-extremist parties, whose work will be aimed at strengthening the state both politically and economically. "The characteristic feature of the forthcoming electoral campaign will be that those who act as professionals in political games, who suggest some constructive ideas and give up empty talk and who have access to the mass media will have the greatest chances for victory," Zhukov stressed, speaking about the parliamentary elections scheduled for December 12. In his opinion, one should expect the emergence in November of some political leaders, parties and movements, who will be able to conduct the electoral campaign skilfully and professionally.

In the opinion of Erik Kotlyar from MOSKOVKSYA PRAVDA, "many people like the state of emergency." Explaining his viewpoint, he writes that the authorities are at last imposing law and order with a firm hand, which Moscow needed badly for a long time. The improvement of the crime situation in the capital shows that the measures are really effective. "When imposing a state of emergency on Moscow, the president had other objectives in mind and never planned to start gaining political scores for himself in such an important area as the curbing of crime," the newspaper writes.

"The Tajik-Afghan border continues to be a hotbed of tension," Lieutenant General Aleksandr Tymko, chief of staff of the Russian frontier guard troops, said in an interview with ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI. According to Tymko, armed groups of the Islamic Renaissance Party, supported by some Afghan fighters, changed tactics and are now using methods of a long guerrilla war: They penetrate the Tajik territory in large groups, blast with fire frontier guard posts and kidnap hostages. Thirty attempts to cross the border were made in September alone and 13 armed clashes took place, in which 20 fighters were killed, Tymko said.

MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA carries an article entitled "Umbrella for the Unemployed". According to the article, the official unemployment level in the country is 1.2 per cent, which is far smaller than in East European countries. The article deals with the work of employment services, whose task is to provide jobs for those citizens who, for this or that reason, found themselves outside the working process.

Yeltsin Terms Visit to Japan as 'Very Successful'

LD1410184393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1804 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin in an interview with Interfax, at the end of his visit to Japan, has described it as very successful.

He said the two sides had worked out a formula on how to find a solution to their territorial dispute. The president was sorry to say the issue as a whole could not be resolved all at once in the current situation. Yeltsin said the five-stage plan he put forward several years ago could aid towards finding a final solution.

The plan provides for recognizing that the problem does exist, declaring the disputed islands a free economic zone, lifting travel restrictions and reducing the number of troops in the region. After this, when a new psychological atmosphere is in place, it will be possible to approach a final solution to the problem. Yeltsin said the first three conditions had already been met and that Moscow had now begun to pull out troops from the Kuril Islands. One regiment was already withdrawn as part of the Russian pullout from the region. Eventually, Moscow plans to deploy only border guards there.

The president said that the two sides had made a breakthrough in economic relations which was largely due to the more realistic policy pursued by the incumbent Japanese government. For its part, as heir apparent to the former Soviet Union, Russia has recognized all previous agreements including the 1956 declaration outlining ways of resolving the territorial issue and made its own contribution to turn the current round of summit talks into a success, Yeltsin said.

Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said the two sides held to their principled approaches, though making some corrections which would help towards progress in all directions and to conduct talks on the territorial issues in "a more civilized way." He quoted Yeltsin as saying Moscow pledged recognition to the existence of the dispute and to the package of agreements signed by the former Soviet Union and later Russia and was committed to further talks.

The minister said the two countries are yet to set up working groups to flesh out a bilateral peace treaty and by definition, seek a solution to the territorial issue. Their make-up and other details are to be agreed upon through diplomatic channels. "A correct line was taken to avert focussing entirely on the territorial and treaty issues as was done over the past fifty years.

The minister called to take a broader view of the situation. "To begin with, the two sides have piled up mountains of arguments over the period. Secondly, there is a large amount of documents. All of this has to be sorted out from the angle of law and justice rather than trying to corner each other or turn a blind eye to the problem as such," Kozyrev said.

The minister spoke of remaining differences and various interpretations of the issue but also of making a breakthrough. The problem is being lifted to the plane of earnest and frank dialog based on the principles of law and justice, he said.

Kozyrev Discusses Foreign Policy, Yeltsin Japan Visit

LD1410184993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] The suppression of the attempted coup undertaken by the leadership of the former Supreme Soviet undoubtedly affects Russia's foreign policy: "We have put an end to the pressure of the red-brown shadow and our our hands have become freer," head of the Russian Foreign Ministry Andrey Kozyrev declared during his conversation with a group of Russian journalists who accompanied Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his official visit to Japan.

Responding to Interfax special correspondent Vyacheslav Terekhov, Kozyrev pointed out that after disbandment of the RF [Russian Federation] Supreme Soviet there would be no more resolutions of various kinds which aroused surprise and often created additional obstacles in the sphere of international relations.

At the same time, Kozyrev said, Russia's foreign policy "has been and remains a presidential one regarding its principal issues." "The Russian Foreign Ministry will pursue this course in the future as well. One should not think that we acted looking back at the red-browns, we have never done this," said the minister. "But one should not think that abolition of this pinkish or red-brown Supreme Soviet will lead to the situation when we shall refuse to defend Russia's position even in those cases when it is linked with contradictions with the West or our partners within the CIS."

One example, he said, was Russia's position on lifting the embargo on arms supplies to the Bosnian Muslims. "We have always considered that this proposal is misguided and, regardless of whether there is a Supreme Soviet or not, Russia will, all the same, object to this," he said.

...On the territorial dispute with Japan...

On the thorny issue of the four Kurile islands, which Tokyo is claiming back, the minister said the two sides held back to their "fundamental" approaches though had made "some corrections to help towards progress in all directions and discuss the territorial issue in a more civilized way." He quoted Yeltsin as saying Moscow did recognize the problem and the package of agreements signed between the former Soviet Union (later Russia) and Japan and would hold further talks.

The minister said the two countries are yet to set up working groups to hammer out a peace treaty and, by definition, seek a solution to the territorial dispute. Their make up and other details are to be agreed upon

through diplomatic channels. Kozyrev spoke of agreement being reached not to focus entirely on the territorial dispute or the issue of a peace treaty as it used to be in the past fifty years.

The minister called to take a wider view of the situation. "To begin with, the two sides have piled up mountains of arguments in the past fifty years. Secondly, there are many documents. All of this has to be sorted out from the angle of law and justice instead of trying to corner the other side or turn a blind eye to the issue," Kozyrev said.

Although he admitted to the existence of differences and various interpretations of the issue, Kozyrev said the two sides now appear to have broken the deadlock by channeling the issue on to the plane of serious talks on the basis of law and justice.

He spoke of a durable and daunting job lying ahead. More importantly, said the minister, this must be carried out without any hysteria and intransigence on either side.

Kozyrev believes the political declaration the two countries have signed in Tokyo "goes far beyond the framework of any territorial issue," which is only one of the elements of that comprehensive document.

As many as 17 other agreements were also signed, which "mark certain progress in all directions from trade, economic and technological contacts down to specific matters such as cooperation in nuclear safety or the prevention of incidents at sea," he said.

The minister spoke of a common denominator having been found which enables the fundamental positions in the numerator to be maintained as the basis for a breakthrough rather than as an obstacle.

...On the risk of nuclear proliferation...

On a possible spread of nuclear weapons, Kozyrev said Moscow was concerned about North Korea's failure to state on no uncertain terms it was rejoining the nonproliferation treaty. "We cannot afford any abuse of the treaty, no matter where it comes from. If one state can easily walk out of it, it will very hard to get others to join the treaty. This is a matter of principle to us," Kozyrev said.

...And on international sanctions on Libya

On the prospect of tougher international sanctions against Libya, Kozyrev believes Tripoli must display greater readiness for "genuine cooperation." Although Tripoli has agreed to hand over two Libyans accused of involvement in the bombing of the U.S. airliner over Lockerbie, it did not say when which makes the whole thing too abstract, the minister said.

At the same time, he said Russia would oppose any international sanctions affecting its financial interests in that country. The minister said Moscow would continue to be tough on what it believes to be a matter of principle to itself. It would be a mistake to expect Russia to stop holding back to its position little short of a veto at the U.N. security Council, Kozyrev concluded.

Article Views 'Success' of Yeltsin's Japan Visit

PM1410112593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 7

[Sergey Tikhomirov article: "Viewpoint: The 'Train Left' at the Third Attempt"]

[Text] And so, almost immediately following the tank volleys against Moscow's White House, Boris Yeltsin made a lightning visit to Japan. The agenda for the talks—so long awaited by the Japanese and twice postponed—featured, in official jargon, a discussion of a whole package of bilateral relations issues and the signing of more than a dozen agreements.

The situation regarding the latter is more or less clear. Although, as western observers noted sarcastically, the package of accords that were signed was prepared with truly "Russian gusto."

As for the purely political side of the visit, it aroused perhaps the greatest interest among observers. And the moment was accorded a certain piquancy, if this word is at all appropriate here, by the tragic events in our country which darkened the skies of Moscow's tardy Indian summer.

It is well known that there exists to this day no peace treaty between Russia and Japan, even though it is almost half a century since World War II ended. Strictly speaking, our countries are still as it were in a state of war. The reason for this not altogether ordinary situation is also known. It has to do with the four small islands of the South Kurils which belong to Russia, and to which Japan is laying claim. It is precisely because of these islands that the Russian-Japanese feud hindering normal cultural, economic, and other relations between the two neighboring countries has lasted several decades. And although Boris Yeltsin's two cancelled visits of fall last year and spring this year were called off for reasons of Tokyo's tough stance in the territorial dispute with Moscow, the current visit was only made possible because the Japanese, it seems, understood that they had gone too far—and they gave in.

But by putting off the territorial problem—I am not convinced that it has been shelved for long—and thereby courageously stifling the melody of its own theme tune, official Tokyo, having earnestly sought a summit meeting with its neighbor for over a year, was, it seems, itself prepared to request a postponement literally a few days before the rendezvous began.

The reason, I repeat, was the tragic Moscow events. Japan's new premier, unburdened by political and diplomatic experience, along with his Cabinet of Ministers, found himself in a highly delicate position. After all, Tokyo had become the first overseas capital scheduled to receive Boris Yeltsin since the Moscow events. However, to all appearance frantic quests for a code of conduct

with the leader of a state where much blood has just flowed are already a thing of the past.

It is clear that the Russian president did not go to Japan to seek to be let off the hook [za indulgentsiyey], but, paradoxical though it may be, with a greater degree of confidence than before (purely objectively) that his visit would be successful. I suggest that nobody could have forecast this success. It was like a bolt from the blue. And that includes for the Russian Foreign Ministry...

There is an old Russian saying—God loves a trinity. The Kremlin, and all its past and present occupants, are no exception in believing this. And the Japanese seem to have understood. The results of the Tokyo meetings testify to this at any rate. However, the truth is simple—after two false starts, the finishing stretch following Boris Yeltsin's third departure from the Japanese starting blocks will be determined by the future conduct of official Tokyo. It is hard to say when its time will come, but something else is important (and everyone, it seems, agrees with this)—the speedy conclusion of a peace.

'Analyst' Says Yeltsin's Japan Visit Advances Ties

OW1410122593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 14 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has removed "all psychological barriers" for progress in Russo-Japanese relations during his first state visit to Tokyo, a top Russian analyst claimed Thursday [14 October].

Konstantin Sarkisov, director of the Center of Japanese Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, called the visit "historic" and said it marks the beginning of a new era in bilateral relations after a period of stagnation.

"Yeltsin has destroyed the 'ideological wall' which has for 70 years separated Russia and Japan and caused all the problems in relations between the two countries," Sarkisov said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

Yeltsin left Tokyo on Wednesday after he confirmed Russia's obligations in taking over international agreements signed by the former Soviet Union. This includes the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration which calls for the return to Japan of two of the four disputed islands off Hokkaido seized by the Red Army at the end of World War II.

"The main problem now is how it will be taken in Russia, and how...the president will behave. Yeltsin will have to answer many questions here," Sarkisov said.

He said it is important that Yeltsin does not disavow in Moscow what he has said in Tokyo.

Sarkisov called on the Japanese Government to show that Japan is ready to help Russia on its way toward democracy and a market economy.

"I hope the Japanese Government will make real steps in promoting economic cooperation so that Russian people understand that to have closer ties with Japan is in Russia's vital interests," he said.

Touching on the long-standing territorial dispute, Sarkisov said that it is necessary now to start "serious discussions" of the problem.

But he said Japan should not now press Moscow for a quicker solution to the territorial dispute because it will slow down bilateral relations.

"We must understand that it is impossible to solve quickly this delicate problem. We need time and thorough discussion," Sarkisov said.

Article: Yeltsin's Japan Visit Ends on 'Positive' Note

PM1410154593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition pp 1,3

[Sergey Agafonov, Vasiliy Kononenko report: "Boris Yeltsin's Visit Has Ended on Positive Note"]

[Excerpt] Tokyo—The Russian president's official visit to Japan finished on Wednesday with the signing of joint documents and a press conference at the Akasaka Palace. The mood of the Russian and Japanese delegation members was excellent and events took place in a positive atmosphere. The summit talks were described as very successful, and the visit as a whole as a new page in Russian-Japanese relations.

Though these assessments definitely contain a fair amount of "official optimism," they nevertheless possess a raison d'etre—you can describe the trip as successful not only because it is necessary to both sides for propaganda purposes, but also because this summit meeting has changed several things in a number of important areas in the complex relations between Moscow and Tokyo.

The visit has not caused any overt sensations. But no one was expecting there to be any sensations and in the final analysis diplomacy does not thrive on them. Though formally speaking it is fair to register the fact that Yeltsin's trip was not overflowing with outstanding practical results, statistics, commitments etc., it would be a mistake to consider it to have been empty and fruitless. You have to look for its basic achievements in the spiritual sphere, in progress at the level of perception of our partner, image, and in the dialogue's tone. With mature relations, all that these nuances constitute is a background to mutual contacts, but for Russian-Japanese contacts, which have been deformed by decades of confrontation and driven up a blind alley by the sides' irreconcilable positions, this is no longer just a background, but a prerequisite for development, a departure point for progress, that very pivotal moment without which you cannot put any structures in place.

There is still, however, a very long way to go before building these "structures." Moscow and Tokyo are still taking different approaches to a number of questions—including the territorial question—and are guided by

different priorities, and there are no particularly firm ties between the countries (either politically or economically) as in the past. The president's visit did not and could not bridge these gaps, but this time the sides managed to get away from the habit of listening only to themselves and using any means in an attempt to "pressure" the other side into doing things, which has been inculcated by many years of hostility. [passage omitted]

Ex-Governor Warns of Economic Importance of Kurils

MK1410103893 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 3

[Excerpt] Joint documents that are being drawn on the results of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan officially call Russia the successor to the USSR. Thus, Russia has inherited the problem of the islands of the South Kuril Ridge. The current mutual interests of Russia and Japan—investment for the former and a vast promising market for the latter—made it possible to conduct fairly constructive talks that did not hinge on the speedy and definitive solution to this problem. Nonetheless, since this problem is not only historical, but also contemporary—a matter of political prestige—it will inevitably be raised again and again in the course of Russian-Japanese relations. But will Russia give up the islands after all? When and on what terms? We asked KOMMERSANT-DAILY's regular readers to answer this question.

Valentin Fedorov, former governor of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands, currently Russian deputy economy minister:

The Kurils will not be handed over to Japan, although I am not happy with our foreign policy. Talk about handing the Kurils over to Japan was prompted by the fact that many people thought that possible compensation for the Kurils would enable us to get out of the deep economic precipice. This hope existed from the beginning of perestroyka. It was based on the belief that getting a few billion dollars would be enough for our economy to overcome the crisis. Presently, this illusion has dissipated. An opinion is gaining ground that Japan's compensation for the Kurils would not be sufficient to sort out our affairs. Now we need to realize another thing: The transfer of the Kurils to Japan will cause significant economic damage. This damage will exceed possible compensation for the Kurils by an order of magnitude. The thing is that sea products worth several billion dollars are caught annually in the Kuril area—to say nothing of patriotic motives, which will make it impossible to surrender this land.

I think with apprehension: What if Japanese businesses come to the Kurils? Had Japan agreed to forge intensive cooperation with the Far East, then Russia would have lost the Kurils within five years, and in another five years a similar question regarding Sakhalin would have been raised. God himself came to our rescue with the mistaken Japanese theory of the indivisibility of economics and politics.

But we will not be able to hold out long enough on this mistake—all the more so because it is being spontaneously reviewed. Currently, Japanese business is moving forward partially ahead of politics. Japanese firms compete against each other on the territory of Sakhalin. We should promote our own market economy on the Kurils. While on Sakhalin, I tried to strengthen Russia by developing a market economy. I would like to emphasize that the residents of the Kurils cannot have any complaints against the Russian president: In December 1992 Boris Yeltsin signed an edict proclaiming all of the Kurils a free economic zone. This is not a declaratory edict; it gave the region real economic benefits. And if these benefits have not been used, it is the local authorities who are to blame. [passage omitted]

Strategic Rocket Forces General Comments on START I

LD1210103593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0920 GMT 12 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" program]

[Text] The offensive weapons reduction treaty, START-I, will be implemented. This was said by Lieutenant General Viktor Yesin, head of the operational directorate of the Main Staff of Strategic Rocket Forces. Although Ukraine has not yet signed the treaty, the Russian side has in effect started to implement it. According to Gen. Yesin, the missile complexes are systematically being taken off alert status as their service life expires. This work is conducted in accordance with nuclear, technological, and ecological safety regulations. The American side is doing the same.

Operations on Tajik-Afghan Border Viewed

LD1410065993 Moscow Radio Rossii in Russian 0730 GMT 12 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" program]

[Excerpts] Now a report by our special correspondent Valeriy Platonov who attended a briefing by the command of the Russian border troops at the public relations center of the Security Ministry in Moscow.

[Platonov] The Russian border guards, in interaction with the 201st division of the Russian Armed Forces, are not simply guarding the Tajik-Afghan border against clandestine penetration by transgressors of all sorts—for example, so-called peaceful smugglers—but are withstanding the pressure from armed formations. Since the beginning of the year more than 400 border transgressors have been detained there. More than 100 small arms, 200 grenade launchers, more than 1,000 artillery shells, 320 unguided missiles, and tens of thousands of units of ammunition for small arms have been confiscated from them. [passage omitted]

According to Lieutenant General Aleksandr Pyanko, chief of staff of the border troops, the command does not

allow tactical mistakes in the fight against armed formations on the border. The fact that there were no losses among the border troops in September is evidence of this.

The command is holding a dialogue with the leaders of the territories which have a common border with Tajikistan. Several agreements have been signed on a parallel guarding of the border from the Afghan side, in particular, in the area of the 1st and 8th border outposts of the Moscow border detachment. Talks are under way on a parallel guarding of the border with commanders of detachments in the north of Afghanistan. Relations with the formations of Afghan General Dostam have changed for the better.

At the same time Aleksandr Pyanko underlined that the possibilities of reinforcing the border troops on the Tajik-Afghan border from their own resources have been practically exhausted. The problem of border protection should be resolved by, first, political initiatives; second, the formation of a powerful grouping on the border; and, third, by the coalition nature of the forces allocated by the Central Asian states.

As one who shares responsibility for the military part of Russia's efforts on the Tajik-Afghan border, Aleksandr Pyanko supports the setting up under a united command of a grouping of coalition forces, as follows:

[Begin Pyanko recording] In the first echelon there are reinforced border guards, that is us, from the line of the state border to the line of border outposts. Border guards and means of reinforcement. Then there are the coalition forces. How many? Four regiments were mentioned here. [end recording]

[Platonov] Such a substantial Islamic grouping at the most important border defense areas would make attacks by detachments of armed formations hopeless, Aleksandr Pyanko thinks. Unfortunately, the Central Asian states have not yet begun forming coalition forces. Only Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan are fulfilling their obligation assumed in the past to take part in protecting the Tajik- Afghan border. They have supplied 500 people each there. Uzbekistan has supplied only about 180 people and it asks that even they should be released since the period of their military service has expired, without a replacement being provided. The formation of the border forces of Tajikistan itself is going very slowly. Thus, the main burden of military and financial efforts falls on Russia. The Russian border troops have been allocated 2.2 billion rubles to prepare for the winter.

At the same time, although it is very important to protect the Tajik-Afghan border, the Russian border at the distant approaches in Central Asia still remains undefended. The border between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan still remains semi-transparent and 800 Russian border guards on the Turkmen-Afghan border cannot ensure an impenetrable barrier either. One can only hope that the nascent economic integration of the CIS states will prompt the Central Asian states to set up coalition border forces under a united command.

Turkmenistan, Afghanistan Deny Cross-Border Attacks

PM1510102193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 8

[Correspondent Georgiy Smolnikov report under "Turkmenia" rubric: "Postscriptum to POSTFACTUM"]

[Text] Ashgabat—The republic's population was extremely alarmed by the POSTFACTUM report carried 11 October in the evening edition of Russian television's "Vesti" that the Afghan Air Force had allegedly made bombing raid against Turkmenistan. D. Kopekov, the country's defense minister, has strongly denied the report. His statement says that "the Turkmenistan Defense Ministry leadership believes that the report is provocative. The agency's correspondent, using rumors and not checking facts, has misinformed the public."

At the same time the Republic of Afghanistan Embassy in the Russian Federation was authorized to state that the information that Afghan combat aircraft had crossed Turkmenistan's state border and carried out a bomb attack on the neighboring country's territory did not correspond to the facts.

The statement says that "the 845-km Turkmen-Afghan border has been declared a line of friendship and harmony, demonstrating our states' and presidents' desire to strengthen peace and stability in the region. Fraternal friendship and close cooperation between the two countries are a long-standing strategy stemming from historical traditions, cultural relationships, and our national interests."

The press center of the Turkmen Embassy in Russia and the Afghan Embassy in Russia have insistently called on POSTFACTUM and other Russian media not to permit the dissemination of unverified information from doubtful sources in the future.

A telephone conversion was also held on the subject between President S. Niyazov and Russian Federation Defense Minister P. Grachev, in which the POSTFACTUM "sensation" was also refuted.

So, it seems the population can rest easy. But there is another question troubling the inhabitant: Could such television "news items" serve as grounds to stop the transmission in the republic not only of "Vesti" but also of Russian television as a whole...?

Government Denounces Abkhazia for Violence, Looting

LD1410144893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1353 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—The Russian Government denounced the Abkhazian leadership for violence and ethnic cleansing of non-Abkhazians and advanced terms for lifting sanctions against Abkhazia.

The Abkhazian leadership "bears grave responsibility" for continuing violence and looting against peaceful civilians, including Russians and Georgians living in Abkhazia, the government said in a statement on Thursday.

"The Russian Government demands that Abkhazian authorities stop violating human rights, end massive ethnic cleansing of non- Abkhazian population, adopt measures for a safe return of refugees and return to the policy corresponding to Sochi agreements", the government said referring to a ceasefire agreement brokered by Russia.

"Only upon observing these conditions there can be any talk about lifting sanctions", it added.

In the meantime, Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze hopes that his country will retain Abkhazia by joining the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Joining the CIS "gives Georgia a real chance to keep the lost Abkhazia within it", he said at a meeting with the public of the city of Rustavi on Wednesday.

He added that the conflict in Abkhazia was "inspired by Russian reactionary forces headed by rebels from the White House"—the Russian parliament building.

Shevardnadze also believes that joining the CIS will help revive Georgian economy.

5,000 Troops Currently Deployed in Georgia

LD1310120193 Moscow Radio Rossii in Russian 0730 GMT 12 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" program]

[Text] The agreement on the legal status of the Russian troops in Georgia was signed by the chiefs of general staff of the two countries. Three large garrisons of the Russian subunits numbering nearly 5,000 men are currently deployed in Georgia. The guarding of the Russian-Georgian border is at present being carried out only by the Russian units.

Yeltsin, Germany's Kohl Discuss Ties Via Phone

LD1410114393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] In accordance with a previously reached agreement, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had a telephone conversation today. The president's press service has reported that they touched upon some pressing matters in Russian-German relations. At the request of the head of the German government, the Russian president talked about the preparation for the elections to the Federation Council, which will be held on a truly democratic basis, fully respecting the rights and freedoms of Russian citizens. Boris Yeltsin also conveyed his impressions of the trip to Japan.

FRG Envoy Backs Yeltsin Steps Against Parliament

PM1410144793 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 7

[Interview with Otto von der Gablentz, FRG ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Russia, by special correspondent Sergey Maslov in Moscow; date not given: "Otto von der Gablentz: We Do Not Throw Money into a Bottomless Pot"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Maslov] I fully understood the support which the federal government expressed for President Yeltsin after the events of 3-4 October. Less understandable to me was the German side's official approval of his actions right after Edict No. 1400. Approval followed, despite acknowledging the fact of a violation of the constitution. Words of support were heard from a country where the fundamental law, if I may put it this way, is as sacred as the Bible. I do not wish to defend the constitution which we inherited from the past. I am thinking of the future. What do I fear? The so-called anticonstitutional virus which might become lodged in people's legal consciousness—in a country where the words "rule-of-law state" have begun to be uttered increasingly seldom.... A precedent in the sphere of law sometimes decides a great deal, if not everything.

[Von der Gablentz] You have precisely defined the constitution's exceptional significance for the creation of German democracy. We needed a fulcrum in order to rebuild the state after the terrible years of Nazism. The constitution was that fulcrum. But a totally different situation has taken shape in Russia, and I analyzed it back in Germany. The constitution that was in force, with its contradictions, could not serve as a sound basis for democracy. It was necessary not just to change it—it had to be rewritten. According to our constitution, as you know, the basic freedoms and the foundations of the democratic system for politics are inviolable. Any opposition is possible within the limits of this constitution. But we do not have the freedom to eliminate freedom.

As the recent events have shown and as was foreseen even earlier, what the people sitting in the "White House" wanted was not a democratic constitution but a Soviet system geared not to the separation of powers but to the concentration of power. Basically—to the old communist party system. The constitution that was in force was not a real constitution. Underpinned by it, parliament was slipping back toward the Soviet system. In that situation there was no choice but to do away with its remnants. Best of all, this would have been done by means of free elections, in order then to draw up a new constitution on the basis of a new legitimacy.

I do not think in this connection that it is a question of a violation of the constitution in the true sense of the word. What Yeltsin did 21 September might have been a violation from the viewpoint of positive, existing law, but certainly not of democratically legitimated law. This is why the federal government, after a thorough analysis of the situation, which required careful thought, and

precisely because of our serious perception of the constitution, decided to support Yeltsin and his actions.

[Maslov] Another question of the future. People are asking it not only in Russia but also in Germany. For example, such an eminent political figure, both for you and for us—Egon Bahr. In connection with the events in Moscow he pointed out, for example, that elections are only free if the opposition is represented in them. But a situation has been created in the country whereby few people venture to declare publicly that they are in opposition to the government. Journalists sense the closeness of the Damoclean sword of censorship. Preliminary censorship has been abolished, but it is possible to sequester a newspaper's print run that has already been printed. No one will explain to journalists the border line between ordinary criticism and opinions which might be described as subversive. God only knows the difference now.... Food for thought is also provided by the fact that journalists—representatives of the democratic press—are becoming victims of militia brutality.

FRG Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel has expressed an interest in the further development of the democratic reforms in Russia. How do you see the future of our democracy in light of the upcoming elections?

[Von der Gablentz] I see that the atmosphere of which you speak is coming into being. A state of emergency has been declared. I hope that safety and calm will be restored so quickly that the president will be able to lift the emergency measures as soon as possible. Indeed, in order to prepare for free elections, which are two months away, it is very important for the political associations which have been formed to feel free. Including the opposition to the president and the government. At the same time it is particularly important to ensure freedom of the press.

I recall that the president and the government invited foreign observers to the referendum held in the spring. This would probably be a good opportunity this time, too, to demonstrate to the whole world a readiness to create conditions for the free expression of people's will. But you are right: It is necessary to emerge from the state of emergency. It is hardly possible to prepare for free elections under these conditions.

[Maslov] The future of democracy in Russia will primarily depend on the success of the economic reform. And, in this sense, on ourselves above all. But at the same time we allocate by no means the least role to financial support from the West, from the G-7 states. The G-7 position on this question has received various assessments in our press. But there is an incontestable fact: In the sphere of financial support for renewed Russia Germany alone has done practically half of what all the G-7 states put together have done. But far from every Russian citizen knows how sensibly we are utilizing the credits and other forms of assistance that have been given. You can sometimes hear it said of our country: a bottomless pot. Is this correct?

[Von der Gablentz] I am grateful to you for assessing at its true worth our contribution to the financial support for reforms in Russia. It really is a good half of what is coming from Western countries. A special form of aid is the construction of housing for servicemen of those units which are being withdrawn from Germany. I am talking of large sums—8-10 billion German marks. The program in which they have been invested is being implemented very successfully. Thanks to good management, more apartments are being constructed than originally proposed.

Next it is necessary to speak of credits. The state guarantees them for German firms so that they can, with limited risk, sell their output—machine-building output, above all—to Russian firms, to those which are experiencing financial difficulties at present but which will in the future be in a position to settle their debts.

About debts in particular. Germany—in the form of both state financial institutions and banks—is Russia's biggest creditor. Mindful of your present problems, the Germans are deferring payments and revising their terms.

It is also necessary to single out assistance in the form of advice. At the present crucial stage Russia is endeavoring to learn from us in the spheres of economics and law. Of course, we cannot apply our solutions in your country. But we can work together with the Russians and make suggestions. Funds are being channeled from the federal budget and from the budgets of lands and cities to give assistance in the form of advice. Private entrepreneurs are also investing money in these projects.

Of course, Germany also participates in international aid programs for Russia. German money accounts for 28 percent of what the EC is doing in this sphere. We give support both through the IMF and along G-7 lines. As you see, this is a comprehensive support system. A search is being conducted for the most effective ways within the framework of all the enumerated forms of cooperation. Aid proves effective only when Russia helps itself. Then its desire to transform the existing system is encouraged. Precisely these are the conditions for aid. This is the guarantee that we are not throwing money into a bottomless pot.

[Maslov] In order to help, it is probably necessary to see some positive results in the implementation of reforms. But not all of us are sure that such results exist at all. Maybe things are clearer from the sidelines?

[Von der Gablentz] Russia needs to mobilize its own forces. It can already be said that the reforms have brought about a change in the overall climate in the country: Private initiative and enterprise are awakening in the provinces and in Moscow. I believe that this is of decisive significance. Of course, Russia is encountering tremendous difficulties, since the legal area and management of the economy still bear the deep imprint of the old system. But I can see that people all over Russia are waking up in order to earn. They are buying and selling. Yes, they are producing less and less at present. But you must ponder this question: What, in fact, was being

produced before? To a considerable extent things that were not suitable for the market. High technologies were used mainly in the defense industry. But the arms market is limited. At the same time we want together to limit it still further. In short, many problems have accumulated which demand a solution. This is a long process. But I can see signs that the reforms are already producing positive results. You must go further. You must not get bogged down half way. [passage omitted]

German Official: Troop Withdrawal on Schedule

LD1410192393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1651 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Berlin October 14 TASS—General Hartmut Fertsch, an official of the German Government in charge of the withdrawal of Russian Western Group of troops from Germany, told ITAR-TASS on Thursday that Russia had been fulfilling its commitments connected with the re-dislocation of the Western Group of troops beyond reproach.

The same is true of the German side, the general said. A total of 15 billion deutsche marks allocated by the German Government for the maintenance of the process will be provided in full, he pointed out.

According to the general, as a result of an agreement on allocating more funds for the construction of housing for withdrawn servicemen, 44,000 apartments will be provided to servicemen instead of 36,000 previously planned.

Asked about the further use of real estate belonging to western troops, General Fertsch said that the Bundeswehr does not need most of their vacated towns and barracks. Part of the former Russian troops' property will be handed over to state-run organisations, while the rest of it will be sold.

The general pointed out that Russia's initial estimate of the cost of the property turned out to be unrealistic since its cost is determined not by the amount of funds invested, but rather by its market value.

Government Official on South African Developments

MB1410191593 Moscow Radio Moscow in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The head of the Africa Directorate in the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. (Leonid Sakhunov), emphasized in a discussion with our correspondent that Russia still devotes a significant amount of attention to problems in African countries. He also commented on current developments in South Africa.

We welcome the decision taken by the majority of the political forces in the country to establish a Transitional Executive Council and a sub-commission charged with the responsible task of managing the transitional phase. We believe that the council's activities are paving the way for a new constitutional dispensation. The general election planned for 27 April next year is definitely an important development in the country. Replying to a question on Nelson Mandela's call for the lifting of sanctions against South Africa, (Sakhunov) said that apartheid has become something of the past.

Nelson Mandela also called on the world community to assist with the restoration of the economy, the stabilization of the socio-political situation in South Africa and the creation of a favorable climate for the establishment of a new democratic state. On the idea of holding a national referendum, the Russian diplomat said that a compromise should be reached so that the most influential political parties in South Africa can resolve their differences. In any event, the South African community should decide for themselves what measures will best promote the reform process in the country. A referendum will not necessarily have a negative affect on the democratic process.

(Leonid Sakhunov) also expressed his views on future economic cooperation between Russia and South Africa. We have already achieved success in some areas such as trade and other economic ties, as well as air agreements. Other agreements will be negotiated and signed to promote further interaction. (Sakhunov) says agreements in the field of scientific cooperation have already been implemented. Joint cooperation will be mutually beneficial.

Plane, Russian Crew Seized in Johannesburg

LD1510103993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0847 GMT 15 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Kulik]

[Text] Johannesburg October 15 TASS—An AN-12 plane with a 8-man Russian crew was arrested at the Lanceria Airport near Johannesburg. The South African TV news announcer noted on Thursday that the South African military intelligence was involved in this action.

The aircraft was chartered by the "Executive Outcome" Company which, according to some sources, recruits instructors for the Government of Angola from among former servicemen of the South African defence forces. An official of this firm said that somebody "wants to incriminate the company in transporting mercenaries."

Representatives of the South African defence forces have also "denied the claims that the Russians were involved in flying their men to Angola," the announcer stated. The South African military assert that "the members of the AN-12 crew had problems with paying their bills for accommodation at the Air Force hostel".

Russian missions in South Africa have still not received any information on the incident.

Radio on Moscow's Concern Over DPRK 'Nuclear Threat'

SK1510102393 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Today's World" program]

[Text] During President Yeltsin's visit to Tokyo, Russia and Japan stressed the need to ban the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The Russian president and Japanese Prime Minister Hosokawa expressed their concern about the potential nuclear threat posed by the DPRK. Station commentator (Korilev) pointed out that Pyongyang promised to implement its duty under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] at the U.S.-DPRK talks held in June. As facts prove, however, the DPRK tries to avoid the implementation of the agreement.

Talks between the DPRK and the International Atomic Energy Agency held up to now have brought no positive results. At the previous talks between the two, they mentioned the need for international surveillance over the two facilities [sisol] near Pyongyang, which are believed to be involved in nuclear development for military purposes.

A joint declaration was signed by Russia and Japan during President Yeltsin's recent visit to Tokyo, regarding nuclear nonproliferation on the Korean peninsula. In a joint declaration, Russia and Japan appealed to the DPRK to remove the international community's suspicions about the nature of its nuclear plan.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev also made clear remarks on this. An interview with an ITAR-TASS reporter, Kozyrev said: Russia is concerned about the fact that the DPRK has not stated yet that it will rejoin the NPT.

Expressing his own concern about Pyongyang's attitude, Kozyrev pointed out that the danger caused by the violation of the NPT is being created in the Russian border area. According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, the danger may spread all over the territories. Kozyrev also said: Russia cannot allow anyone to easily get away from the nuclear nonproliferation system because such an easy escape would make it very difficult for other countries to enter this system.

DPRK Ambassador Comments on 'Forged' UN Letter

SK1510112493 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] A news conference was held at the DPRK Embassy in Russia on 13 October. DPRK Ambassador Son Song-pil made public the statement issued by the DPRK's Ministry of Atomic Power Industry.

The statement pointed out: Pressure is being put on Pyongyang under the pretext of the groundless allegation that it is secretly developing nuclear weapons.

The ambassador said that some UN and International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] officials had forged a letter allegedly signed by the UN secretary general. The forged letter pointed out: It is time for the UN Security Council to make a definite decision on its active intervention in the nuclear issue of Iraq and the DPRK, which is stirring up the world community.

This forged letter was delivered to the 47th IAEA general meeting held recently in Vienna. The ambassador said that the DPRK Government regarded this as an affront to the DPRK, a UN member nation.

DPRK Ambassador to Russia Son Song-pil stated: The DPRK will no longer continue to hold talks with the IAEA on the nuclear inspection issue. We will deal with the nuclear issue only through direct talks with Washington because the IAEA has lost its credence.

Political Issues

State Of Emergency, Curfew To Be Lifted 18 Oct

LD1510111493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1057 GMT 15 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—"The state of emergency will be lifted in Moscow at 5 a.m. on October 18," ITAR-TASS was told by Chief of the Russian State Legal Department Aleksandr Kotenkov.

"A toughened regime of law enforcement will continue to exist in Moscow after the lifting of the state of emergency and the curfew, but it will not undermine the constitutional rights and liberties of the citizens, first of all their suffrage rights and freedoms in light of the ongoing election campaign to the Federal Assembly," Kotenkov added.

Constitutional Conference Postponed to 22 Oct

LD1410181193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1428 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Well informed sources have told Interfax that the plenary session of the Constitutional Conference to revise the draft Constitution scheduled for October 15-16 has been postponed due to the expected appearance of President Boris Yeltsin at the constituent congress of the political bloc Russia's Choice to be held on October 16-17 in the House of Cinema. According to the source, the Constitutional Conference working group is to resume its work on October 15 in the Kremlin. Session of the public chamber of the Constitutional Conference can be probably appointed to October 19. Various sources reported that the plenary session of the Constitutional Conference will be held on October 22-23.

Documents on State Chamber Published

Directive No. 685

PM1410135593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 4

[Presidential Directive No. 685 "On the Formation of the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference," dated 11 October 1993 and signed by President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] With a view to completing the preparation of the Russian Federation draft Constitution and in accordance with Point 2 of the Russian Federation president's Edict No. 1400 "On Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform in the Russian Federation" dated 21 September 1993:

1. A State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference is to be set up.

2. The Statute on the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference (appended) is to be ratified.

3. The composition and size of the membership of the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference is to be established in accordance with the Statute on the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference.

4. Boris Andreyevich Zolotukhin and Aleksandr Maksimovich Yakovlev are to be appointed coordinators of the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[Dated] 11 October 1993
No. 685

Ratified by Directive No. 685 of the Russian Federation President dated 11 October 1993.

Statute on the State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference

1. The State Chamber of the Constitutional Conference (henceforth referred to as the State Chamber) is the organizational form of the cooperation between federal organs of state power and the organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation in the constitutional process.

2. The main task of the State Chamber is to formulate proposals to change and supplement the Russian Federation draft Constitution. The State Chamber also adopts recommendations on political, social, and socioeconomic issues.

3. The total membership of the State Chamber is not to exceed 250 people.

The State Chamber includes:

representatives of the components of the Russian Federation (two representatives per component);

representatives of the Russian Federation president;

representatives of the Russian Federation Council of Minsters-Government;

members of working groups from the Constitutional Commission for Examining the Russian Federation draft Constitution formed by Russian Federation Presidential Directive No. 621 dated 8 September;

representatives of the Commission for Legislative Proposals under the Russian Federation president—former Russian Federation people's depties;

representatives of the Commission for Human Rights under the Russian Federation president—former Russian Federation people's deputies.

4. Representatives of the Russian Federation General Prosecutor's Office, the Russian Federation Constitutional Court, the Russian Federation Supreme Court, and the Russian Federation Higher Arbitration Court may take part in the work of the State Chamber.

5. The State Chamber works in sessions at which issues that have been submitted by the Russian Federation president or supported by at least one-third of its members are discussed.

6. Sessions of the State Chamber are to be convened by the Russian Federation president.

7. Joint sessions of the State Chamber and the Public Chamber will be convened by the Russian Federation president within the framework of the Constitutional Conference.

8. Sessions of the State Chamber will be conducted by coordinators appointed by the Russian Federation president.

9. Recommendations by the State Chamber are to be adopted by a majority of the votes present at the session, at the same time a note is to be made of the minority opinion if it is supported by at least one-fifth of those present. Recommendations are to be passed to the Russian Federation president only when they have been signed by the coordinator chairing the session.

10. In order to discuss specific questions within the framework of the State Chamber, temporary working groups may be formed.

11. Changes to the present statute may be made by an appropriate Russian Federation presidential directive.

12. The State Chamber will discontinue its activity following a decision by the Russian Federation president.

Directive No. 686

PM1410133193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 4

[Presidential Directive No. 686 "On Ratifying the Statute on the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference," dated 11 October 1993 and signed by President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] In order to ensure the activity of the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference:

1. The Statute on the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference (appended) is to be ratified.

2. Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Sobchak is to be appointed coordinator of the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
[Dated] 11 October 1993
Directive No. 686

Statute on the Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference

1. The Public Chamber of the Constitutional Conference (hereinafter referred to as the Public Chamber), by ensuring the participation of public associations in the constitutional process, is the organizational form for their cooperation with the Russian Federation's federal organs of power within whose framework necessary political consultations take place on a wide range of sociopolitical issues.

2. The main task of the Public Chamber is to formulate proposals to amend and supplement the Russian Federation draft Constitution. The Public Chamber also adopts recommendations on political, social, and socioeconomic issues.

3. The Public Chamber includes representatives of political parties, mass movements, youth and other social organizations, entrepreneurs' associations, religious creeds, associations of local organs of self-government, and all-Russia trades unions registered with the Russian Federation Ministry of Justice.

4. In order to merit inclusion in the Public Chamber these representatives will require:

A copy of the appropriate association's certificate of registration with the Russian Federation Ministry of Justice;

An excerpt from the decision by the appropriate organ of the association empowered to determine the names of its representatives in the Public Chamber.

5. The Public Chamber works in sessions at which issues that have been submitted by the Russian Federation president or supported by at least one-fourth of the organizations represented in the Public Chamber are discussed.

6. Joint sessions of the State Chamber and Public Chamber are to be convened by the Russian Federation president within the framework of the Constitutional Conference.

7. Routine sessions of the Public Chamber will take place on the third Saturday of every month.

8. Extraordinary sessions of the Public Chamber are to be convened by the Russian Federation president.

9. Sessions of the Public Chamber will be chaired by coordinators appointed by the Russian Federation president. The Public Chamber is entitled to submit candidates for coordinators to the Russian Federation president.

10. The Public Chamber's recommendations are to be adopted by a majority of votes of those present at the session. At the same time a note is to be made of the minority opinion if it is supported by at least one-fifth of those present. Recommendations are to be passed to the Russian Federation president only when they have been signed by the coordinator chairing the session.

11. In order to discuss specific questions within the framework of the Public Chamber, temporary working groups may be formed.

12. Changes to the present statute may be made by an appropriate Russian Federation presidential directive.

13. The Public Chamber will discontinue its activity following a decision by the Russian Federation president.

Ratified by Directive No. 686 of the Russian Federation President dated 11 October 1993.

Security Council Meeting for 15 Oct Postponed

LD1410135793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1327 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—A meeting of the Russian Security Council planned for Friday [15 October] will not be held, ITAR-TASS learned on Thursday from the press office of the Russian president. The reasons for the cancellation of the meeting and possible date of its holding have not been established.

Boris Yeltsin returned from an official visit to Japan late on Thursday evening. The programme of the visit was very busy. Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin left on Thursday on a two-day working visit to Astrakhan.

The Russian Security Council meeting on October 15 planned to endorse the main provisions of the Russian military doctrine. The draft document was discussed at the previous meeting of the Security Council on October 6.

Security Minister Comments on 3-4 Oct Actions

LD1410144993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1319 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Oct—The analysis of the actions of the opposition forces on 3 and 4 October shows they were preparing to seize power in the country, Nikolay Golushko, Russian minister of security, said at a news conference held here today.

Among the reasons for the tragedy is the treachery of the leaders of the former parliament and former Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy who were preparing the mutiny under the guise of peace talks, Nikolay Golushko said. The security minister noted that not a single military subunit went over to the side of the former Supreme Soviet "and nor did the working class stretch out its hand to it."

The minister denied a statement by Viktor Barannikov, whom he called a "tragic figure." Barannikov alleged that 7,000 Security Ministry personnel had gone over to the parliament side. Sergey Stepashin, first deputy minister of security, who took part in the conference, also confirmed that, apart from 12 people in Irkutsk, not a single Security Ministry subunit had gone over to the side of the former Supreme Soviet. He added that there existed a list of 18 KGB pensioners who were paid 2 million rubles [R] from the funds of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and had indeed lent their support to Barannikov. Security Ministry personnel were in the White House all the time, informing the president and the government about everything that was going on inside.

The minister said that the Security Ministry had no information confirming that fighters from the Dniester republic, who were in the White House, used arms stolen from the dumps of the 14th Russian Army. He also said that a group of "semi-criminal wheeler-dealers", led by Shashurin, an entrepreneur from Kazan, had been arrested. These dealers, who, among other things, subsidized Aleksandr Rutskoy's jaunt to Vorkuta, had stolen R2,000 million with the assistance of counterfeit letters of credit.

Nikolay Golushko thinks that from now on disparate services protecting various authorities should cease to exist and that a single federal service should be set up, possibly under the Security Ministry's auspices, to carry out protection duties for the highest state officials, regions included. He also noted that it is necessary to exercise control over the activities of political parties and public movements which "enshrine one thing in their charters but implement altogether different things in reality."

It was reported at the news conference that currently 15 people are facing charges in the criminal case linked to the events that took place on 3 and 4 October.

Ex-Deputy: Rutskoy Ordered Mayor's Office Attack

LD1410221393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1956 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Vladimir Isakov, a member of the former Russian parliament, told a meeting in Yakaterinburg on Thursday [14 October] that the decision to storm the Moscow Mayor's Office had been taken individually by ex-Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, "who let himself succumb to the pressure of the agitated mob."

Isakov also accused Parliamentary Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov of putting up with the conduct of the presidential entourage and the "provocative activities" of the mass media. "The president trampled on the Constitution, provoking the deputies into retaliatory action," he said.

Isakov called on everybody to take part in the December parliamentary election and said he would "fight for a seat in the State Duma in order to bring at least a few normal people into parliament."

TASS Chiefs' 3 Oct Showdown With Rebels Described

PM1510095793 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "It Was Not Only 'Ostankino' That Was Stormed"]

[Text] A week has gone by since the tragic events of 3-4 October. Emotions are gradually subsiding, but it remains extremely important to obtain information of the utmost accuracy about what happened on those days.

At around 1900 hours on 3 October two people entered the office of ITAR-TASS General Director Vitaliy Ignatenko with mandates from Rutskoy, Achalov, and Khasbulatov and issued an ultimatum: one hour to reflect, after which they would return to ensure that all the ITAR-TASS systems were working only for the putschists.

Just over an hour later, this time three people turned up again at the agency with a group of armed men. Before this, ITAR-TASS staff had three times telephoned government and power structures to inform them that the

agency was being guarded by the staff themselves. Only a call to Ye.T. Gaydar got through directly, and the vice premier promised to take measures....

During those same hours Prime Minister V. Chernomyrdin telephoned V. Ignatenko. He expressed support and said: "I am personally monitoring the situation around ITAR-TASS."

At around 2000 hours ITAR-TASS was essentially captured by armed Rutskoyites. All the collegium members and the agency's leadership were gathered together in the general director's office and asked to transmit to the whole world some communique on "the people's" victory over the president and his team.

General Director Ignatenko responded with a categorical refusal, which was supported by all the collegium members. The collegium was informed that "Ostankino" had already been taken, that "ITAR-TASS is simply wasting time," and that television would soon announce what ITAR-TASS had refused to announce. This exchange, on the edge of violence, lasted 54 minutes. By that time ITAR-TASS staff had already fed into the computers the report that the agency had been captured by armed men.

Negotiations between the Rutskoy-Khasbulatov gunmen, who had taken up an all-around defense in the lobby, and the special-purpose troops who arrived an hour later were conducted through an intermediary—an ITAR-TASS employee. Both sides were informed of the agency leadership's demand that the matter should not go so far as an exchange of fire and destruction of the building, where several dozen people, including women, were working. On condition that they surrender their ammunition, the gunmen were let out of the building by the special-purpose troops.

The situation remained tense the next night, however. Over the course of several hours the building was shot at by snipers, a Tamanskaya Division captain died outside the entrance to the agency as a result of exchanges of fire, and an enlisted man was seriosuly wounded....

'Fascist' Leader's Escape From White House Noted

PM1410152393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 6

[Aleksey Chelnokov report: "Fascist Barkashov Still on the Run"]

[Text] Aleksandr Barkashov, the ringleader of the profascist "Russian National Unity" [RNU], is still on the run.

Ba. .ashov managed to get out of the White House basement 4 October by an unusual means, I was told by a member of RNU—via a sewer leading toward Kiev Station. Several other members of the "Unity" Central Council also went with him without suffocating. Where are they hiding? There are several stories about this.

The first has it that the Russian fascists have gotten out of harm's way by going to Serbia. I learned from a reliable source that combat positions near a Serbian village have been reserved for Barkashov's men. They fight by the "tour of duty method." Detachments of 12 men are replaced by reinforcements from Moscow once a month. During the two-year war 200 blackshirts have passed through the combat training school.

A permanent representative of a Yugoslav firm living in one of the capital's hotels is in charge of getting volunteers to Serbia, including Barkashov's men. He acts as middleman in drawing up foreign passports (the gunmen travel as tourists) and also provides each volunteer with 300 German marks as a "boost." According to available information, illegal routes are provided for unforeseen cases. One of these being via the Dniester Region, Moldova, and Romania. So the fugitive fuehrer could have gotten out of the CIS long ago without Yugoslav Embassy help.

But I was told by the same RNU source that Barkashov is in Russia. Where precisely?

Only a few of our particularly trusted people know that, he said... Barkashov went for broke by going to the White House. In siding with the Communist Anpilov and the National Salvation Front's Konstantinov, whom he previously bad-mouthed, he proved that his priority now is to get embroiled in armed resistance to Yeltsin's authority. So there is nothing for him to do in Yugoslavia.

There were around 100 RNU thugs on the list of White House defenders. According to some figures, around the same number of Barkashov's people were constantly in the building. After the House of the Soviets was captured many of them used underground passageways to scatter throughout Moscow. Some of them with weapons.

RNU member N. Vladislav, his relatives told me, returned home on 4 October and asked for a uniform and has since disappeared. His friends telephone from time to time and say that "Vladik is fine." Young Barkashovites now meet quite openly outside the Ploshchad Revolyutsii Metro station (although they have cast aside their camouflage gear). In other words the profascist organization is in existence and is being coordinated by its leaders, who have gone underground.

Another story has it that Barkashov could have obtained secret asylum in St. Petersburg or Rostov-na-Donu, where there are far-flung regional branches of the RNU. It is easy to find support in a city with a population of millions, where right-wing radical forces are unusually strong. And some Cossack villages in the south sympathize with Barkashov.

Decree Grants Foreigners Privatization Rights

LD1510094493 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0530 GMT 15 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A decree from Russian President Boris Yeltsin will be signed shortly, in accordance with which foreigners will

be able to take part in the privatization of Russian enterprises on a par with Russian citizens.

Medvedev Says Some Parliaments Delaying Reformation

LD1410185693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1428 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The president's administration has expressed [to] Boris Yeltsin its concern over the fact that parliament in some republics was delaying self-reformation, Interfax has been told by Nikolay Medvedev, who is responsible for relations with the territories and the president's representatives.

He said that President Yeltsin, by his decree of October 9 on reforming the system of councils in territories and regions, recommended that the republics' parliaments also take their decisions on the issue. Medvedev stressed that the president make it clear that he did not want to direct the republics' actions. However, this does not mean that they may ignore the president's recommendations, he said.

Medvedev said that most republics acted on the president's recommendations for example, the parliament of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) took a decision on self-dissolution and set for December 12 the elections to a new parliament that will have 35 seats. The republic also discontinued activities of the councils at all levels and suspended the activities of the Constitutional Court.

He said that the parliaments of Monrovia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Komi and some other republics were delaying in taking decision on the issue and attempt to postpone it to the middle of next year. Leader of parliaments in some republics continue sticking to old standards when not infrequently they dictated their conditions to Boris Yeltsin in the Federation Council, said Medvedev.

He said that Boris Yeltsin want to reform all legislatures at all levels and make them a structurally unified system without the councils. The resistance by some republics to do so, said Medvedev, forces the president's administration to recommend that Boris Yeltsin himself take an adequate decision, although he would not like to, said Medvedev.

He also said that extremism by Rutskoy and Khasbulatov was in many respects conditioned by their support on the part of parliaments in some republics.

Medvedev: Reformed Soviets Will Boost Authority

LD1410222993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Report on interview with Nikolay Medvedev, head of the Territories Directorate of the Russian presidential administration, by correspondent V. Pavlov in Moscow on 14 October; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer Svetlana Sorokina] After the failed attempt at a state coup Russia finds itself in a new political situation where executive authority exists, legislative authority is absent, and judicial authority has to date not played a significant role in the life of society. Today we asked Nikolay Medvedev, head of the Territories Directorate of the presidential administration, to comment on this situation.

[Begin Medvedev recording] This is not creating some kind of vacuum of authority or lack of authority, because what we had was a lack of authority or vacuum of authority. On the contrary the process now under way at the regional level regarding both the dissolution of the soviets and the reforming of the soviets will help a strengthening of authority, because the two branches of authority were confronting each other both at the federal level and at the level of the Federation's component territories. [end recording]

[Pavlov] Nikolay Medvedev regards the reforming of the soviets as a painful but essential process. In his opinion the reforming of the local soviets should be finished by March 1994. He also stressed that to date 15 of the 89 oblast soviets have been disbanded or have dissolved themselves. The Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutiya) has also been disbanded. [Video shows Medvedev seated in office being interviewed]

Presidential Aide: Advisers Not Yeltsin's 'Mouthpiece'

LD1410192993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1720 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow, October 14 (TASS)—Members of the presidential council, which comprises well-known political analysts and experts, may as well express their own views on the current situation. They should not be regarded only as the mouthpiece of the Russian president, presidential aide Andranik Migranyan said in today's interview with TASS.

In doing so, he referred to the recent statement by presidential adviser Georgiy Satarov who said Yeltsin might move up parliamentary elections and combine them with presidential polls, which was misinterpreted by certain media as the expression of Yeltsin's opinion.

"Under the present circumstances, it is very critical to differentiate between presidential advisers' own judgements and those they express on behalf the president", Migranyan stressed.

He recalled that as long ago as in September, Boris Yeltsin rejected the possibility of holding simultaneous elections for the Federal Assembly (a new Russian legislature) and president, referring to the need for the continuity of power. "We have suggested that Boris Yeltsin call simultaneous elections, but he said he must think the situation over", the presidential aide reported adding there were people in the president's entourage both favouring such a decision and opposing it.

Migranyan told reporters that the presidential council had not yet discussed the possibility of putting the draft of a new constitution to the people's vote simultaneously with parliamentary elections, but he believed there was certain expediency and inner sense in such a variant. If the draft were approved at the referendum, it would enable the newly-elected parliament to pass it immediately instead of writing another draft, Migranyan emphasised.

Shakhray Calls Rumors of Resignation 'Exaggerated'

LD1410152693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1440 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Oct—Sergey Shakhray stated at a news conference today that rumors of his resignation from the post of deputy prime minister of Russia are "greatly exaggerated." He is continuing to work, and he has been given the task of heading the federal state commission on questions of the reform of the bodies of representative power and organizations of local self-government, which was set up by decree of the president of the Russian Federation.

Sergey Shakhray intends to stand for election to the State Duma. He does not intend to be a candidate for the post of president of Russia.

Comments on Representative Bodies

LD1410223693 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1641 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Today a news conference by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakray was held in Moscow. Our correspondent Igor Chernevskiy has the details.

[Chernevskiy] [Passage omitted] Sergey Shakhray stressed that the question of his resignation was somewhat exaggerated, to put it mildly, and he confirmed that he currently is head of the commission that is working on issues of reforming representative authority. Approximately 30 people are on the commission, including lawyers and envoys from the components of the Federation. Tomorrow the drafts of five documents that have been drawn up will be presented to the authorities. What do these documents contain? Sergey Shakhray explains:

[Begin recording] [Shakhray] The main concept of these documents is as follows: The size of a body of representative power is established at up to 50 people; components of the Federation, taking into account national, regional, historical, and other features, are given the right to name this body a duma, assembly, medjlis, kurultay, or some other name, and determine the number of full-time professional deputies; the size of the population and state of finances of any component of the Russian Federation will influence the size of these bodies.

Second, representative power bodies of components of the Russian Federation in krays and oblasts receive the right to legislate. As envisaged in the draft Constitution approved by the Constitutional Conference a new juridicial authority appears in the country—kray and oblast laws.

The main powers of these bodies of representative power can be condensed to three most important functions: the adoption of legal acts on issues entrusted to the competence of the components of the Russian Federation; the confirmation of the budget of the kray or oblast and reporting on its implementation; and as representative body controlling the activities of the administration and the activities of the executive. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Chernevskiy] Journalists asked the deputy prime minister many tricky questions. Workers from the mass media where also interested in this question: To what degree will the new parliament, the new legislative power, be legitimate? For under present conditions major opposition parties have been practically prevented from participating in the elections, including the communists headed by Gennadiy Zyuganov, and [Vasiliy] Lipitskiy's People's Party [People's Party of Free Russia, headed by Rutskoy]. Sergey Shakhray answered.

[Begin recording] [Shakhray] I think that once the state of emergency is repealed several steps will follow, which will broaden the political spectrum of political forces participating in the elections, provide additional guarantees of the equality of political forces in the mass media, and set up monitoring mechanisms, including international monitoring mechanisms, to check free expression of will and free voting. Under these conditions I believe that the elections will be maximally legitimate. In any event noone will convince me that the elections in 1989 and 1990, in accordance with the documents adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and Politburo, were more legitimate. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Shakhray on Founding of Unity, Accord Party

LD1510104693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1022 GMT 15 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—A founding conference of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord will be held in Novgorod next Saturday [16 October] and Sunday [17 October]. The new party will voice the interests of regions and take part in the elections to the Federal Assembly.

According to Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, who is one of its founders, the party does not intend to join the "Choice of Russia" bloc founded by First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar.

In the opinion of Shakhray, who is at the same time chairman of the state committee for the affairs of the federation, the creation of blocs "increases the number of the names of Moscow politicians on the lists," while the new party will be formed "with a minimum of Moscow politicians."

However, he believes that all democratic parties could "form an alliance in electorate districts, where polls will

be held according to the majority system." Shakhray does not rule out a possibility of the emergence of other, larger blocs.

Republican, territorial and regional branches will form the basis of the Russian Unity Party, while "the unification of regional interests will provide social support for it."

The party is planned to be a small one, created on the basis of individual membership.

According to Shakhray, the party which claims to be regional "should keep away from radical proposals from any of the sides." This is one of the things that makes it different from the choice of Russia Choice. Representatives of many regions, including Karelia and the North Caucasian republics, agreed to take part in the founding conference.

Economic Freedom Party Endorses Yeltsin Policy

PM1510090393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 2

[Andrey Zhukov report: "Some Are Bankrupt, Others Have Become Confident"]

[Text] An extraordinary congress of the Economic Freedom Party [EFP] has been held in Moscow. It should be noted that this organization has supported and continues to support President Yeltsin in the implementation of his policy. The EFP confirmed on 22 September that the president's decree dissolving the Supreme Soviet was a necessary act giving the Russian people a chance to decide the country's fate by democratic means. The EFP resolutely and unambiguously condemned the armed uprising and wholly supported the measures taken by President Yeltsin to suppress it on 4 October.

The EFP congress' political resolution of 6 October states that "pseudocentrist forces are bankrupt. The democratic forces supporting the president and the government have gained an opportunity to substantially strengthen their influence."

The document stresses that the "EFP advocates the speediest organization of elections to a new Russian parliament and reaffirms the need for nationwide elections to both the State Duma and the Federation Council." The party believes that early elections for Russian Federation president should be held following the formation of the new corps of deputies, and it advocates the implementation as soon as possible of reform in regional and local organs of power. This should put an end to the system of soviet power.

K. Borovoy's political report, the debates, the congress resolution, and the final press conference on the results of the party forum stated the main priorities of economic policy—privatization and the fight against inflation. And privatization should be carried out far more quickly and vigorously. The list of sectors and enterprises taken out of the privatization program should be sharply reduced, and military spending should be cut considerably—primarily through reductions in arms purchases.

The congress delegates insisted on the need to radically reduce most current taxes. Differences in taxes in different sectors or branches and types of activity are impermissible. Foreign trade must be liberalized. Protectionism is permissible only to a very limited extent. In the congress delegates' opinion, economic regionalization is currently the most effective way to revive Russia.

In the social sphere the EFP proceeds on the premise that present-day social policy should be based not on protecting citizens from the market but on developing their ability to engage in independent activity under the new economic conditions.

The party believes that the courts should play a key role in the system of state power, and that most conflicts should be decided by them, rather than by the government or parliament.

The conference drew up a federal list of candidates for the State Duma and a list of the party's candidates for single-candidate electoral districts. The congress participants expressed confidence that, following the suppression of the uprising, the EFP has every chance of winning a considerable number of seats and of ultimately exerting a major influence on the shape of the government and its policy.

Labor Ministry Seeks Jobs for Former Deputies

LD1410125593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" program]

[Text] A press conference was held at the Ministry of Labor today. Journalists were interested most of all in Georgiy Zadonskiy, the former people's deputy, who at the suggestion of the former deputies came to head a new directorate to find them jobs. There are 384 deputies who worked in the Supreme Soviet on a permanent basis looking for employment.

Georgiy Zadonskiy said that 85 people had applied to him by 3 October and about 30 people applied afterwards. The directorate has already managed to find jobs for almost 60 people. Due to ethical considerations, Zadonskiy refused to name them.

He noted that a whole group of former deputies was finding jobs without the directorate's assistance, in the committees and commissions being set up anew under the Russian president and government. Former Deputies Mityukov, Kovalev, Podoprigora, and others are among them.

It became known yesterday that Ramazan Abdulatipov would work with Sergey Shakhray. Applications received after 3 October will be dealt with by the presidential administration on the basis of the decree preventing active participants in the 10th Congress and in the events of 3-4 October from benefitting from social guarantees.

However, those former deputies, whose political views are well-known, have not asked the ministry for assistance.

Central Trade Union 'Functionaries' Derided

PM1410140793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Vladimir Kuzmishchev report under the "Viewpoint" rubric: "Head of School of Communism Leaves"]

[Text] The lizard sacrifices its tail in order to save itself. The so-called independent trade unions (the FITUR [Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia]) have had to sacrifice their leader—I. Klochkov. Even managing to change color yet again and align himself with the victors right after the White House was taken was not enough to save him. The FITUR had described the Russian Federation president's edict dated 20 September as "a coup d'etat."

Once upon a time there was an unwieldy bureaucratic machine—the drive belt between the Communist Party and the working masses, and the "school of communism." We all fed it with our contributions without thinking too much about the fact that the right to social insurance, that is, payment for medical certificates and subsidies for vouchers and other things, were being illegally appropriated. The main purpose of trade unions throughout the world is to protect the interests of working people. Never—either in the years of the stagnation, or perestroyka, or indeed during the two post-communist years—have the functionaries from Leninskiy Prospekt expressed the interests of the workers. Admittedly, they tried to retrospectively attach themselves to the miners' strikes and the working movements which arose spontaneously, running for instructions to the CPSU Central Committee, but this illusion of activity did not generate confidence among the workers.

The process whereby the officials shed the right to be in control of social insurance funds was difficult, long, and slow, but on the other hand the parallel process through which they created commercial structures to provide for their own future was very rapid. Who could have thought that Mr. Shcherbakov, who headed the General Confederation of Trade Unions [GCTU], would turn out to be so enterprising in this field? After all, it was none other than he who made a thunderous speech against the only just emerging market structures back at the First Congress of Union Deputies. Incidentally, so far no one has paid any attention to the essentially ridiculous situation whereby there is no empire but an imperial structure—the GCTU, which actually is the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] —remains in its entirety. Workers in Turkmenistan and Moldova most probably have no inkling that they have so many valiant defenders in Moscow.

But let us return to the present. When the officials parted with the social insurance, somewhere in the back yards of the political upper echelons and in the parliament they created the impression of political activity, putting before the government economic demands which they knew in advance to be unfulfillable. And then, when from their viewpoint the deciding time had come for revenge, some of these functionaries (the GCTU proved to be farsighted) threw down mythical millions of trade union members on the political scale. But it is clear that this was also a bluff. Maybe millions of people do pay membership fees just in case in our fragmented country, but only for the simple reason that they do not know what real trade unions should be like. But this established habit is certainly no evidence that people would switch off their lathes at the FITUR's call and go off to defend the White House.

If people feed this crowd of functionaries through ignorance, this does not mean that they deserve no better. But that is the crux of the whole problem today—that real trade unions, and there are many of them, remain in the background. They work at plants, settle very specific problems, and have no time for political games. The functionaries, on the other hand, are preparing to assemble the next congress, where they will once again declare the latest resolute reform of the trade unions. The school of communism is announcing recruitment to its first grade and a contest to fill the director's post.

Shmakov Elected Acting Chairman of Trade Union Federation

LD1410175893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1419 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—A plenum of the Council of the Russian Independent Trade Unions Federation held in Moscow on Thursday [14 October] satisfied Igor Klochkov's request for the resignation from the post of the head of the Russian Independent Trade Unions Federation. Mikhail Shmakov, head of the Moscow Trade Union Federation was elected acting chairman of the Russian Federation by a majority vote.

The final decision as to who will head the major Russian trade union will be made by a congress of the Russian Independent Trade Union Federation to be held on October 28.

'Repressive' Draft Edict on Law, Order Cited

PM1410210393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 93 First Edition pp 1-2

[Leonid Nikitinskiy report: "President Encouraged to Violate Human Rights in Russia. Who Is Author of Draft of Repressive Edict?"]

[Text] In the exceptional situation which has historically developed in present-day Russia, human values such as the right to life sometimes temporarily require, in the interests of their protection, the restriction, by the authorities of other civic rights and freedoms, such as, for example, the freedom of movement. On this wave of decisive actions by the authorities, however, certain forces, seeking to make their job easier, are encouraging the president to transform temporary measures into permanent ones.

On Ekho Moskvy, Wednesday evening, presidential aide Yuriy Baturin, doctor of juridical sciences, commented

on a document which had come into his hands at the request of the radio station's correspondent Aleksey Venediktov. Taking account of the fact that taking such information "on hearsay" could be distorted and cause further public perplexity, and also the fact that Ekho Moskvy, one of the most competent radio stations, has unfortunately an extremely restricted broadcasting range, the IZVESTIYA editorial office has decided to publish extracts from the document mentioned by Yuriy Baturin, a copy of which it also has in its possession.

"Draft decree of the Russian Federation President on Measures To Safeguard Law and Order During the Period of Stage-by-Stage Constitutional Reform.

"For the purpose of strengthening the protection of citizens' life, health, and property, strengthening law and order, and safeguarding state and public security... I decree...:

"2. [number as published] Organs of state administration of the republics within the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg are to be granted, in essential cases, the right:

"to establish... special entry and exit arrangements for means of transport and also a special procedure for their movement and inspection;

"to determine a special procedure for registering citizens' whereabouts and places of residence, making provision for the possibility of establishing corresponding restrictions (quotas) for such registration... Citizens violating the prescribed registration procedure... are liable to expulsion... Cases of such violations are to be examined by internal affairs organs...

"3. In order to ensure the genuine equality of all citizens before the law and the courts, legal norms relating to inviolability and special court procedures in cases involving crimes committed by people's deputies, judges, prosecutors, and other officials are to be rescinded...

"4. Internal affairs organs and federal organs of state security are to be given the right:

"to search buildings and premises of institutions, organizations, and enterprises, irrespective of their form of ownership... if they have information about a crime which is being prepared or committed;

"to detain individuals suspected of committing serious crimes for up to 30 days...

"7. [number as published] ...rayon and city prosecutors... are to be granted the right to extend the term of detention in custody to four months, and republic, kray, and oblast prosecutors... are to be granted the right to extend the term of detention to one year.

"9. [number as published] Repeated violations of the state of emergency regime and actions provoking the violation of law and order... entail... administrative arrest for a period of up to 30 days... Cases involving the said law violations are examined by a people's judge or the commandant of the state of emergency rayon or sector, or also their deputies... within three days..."

The signing of such an edict by the president would signify not the continuation of stage-by-stage constitutional reform, as the document's heading claims, but the extension in nonremedial [neoprotsessualnyy] forms, the possible expansion to the whole of the country's territory, and the stiffening—over and above the rules stipulated by the law—of the state of emergency regime, a speedy desire to abandon which has been publicly stated by the commandant of the Moscow City State of Emergency Rayon.

Such an edict, while it was in operation, would in practice leave Russians defenseless in the face of arbitrary action by the administrative authorities right down to rayon level, authorities which, moreover, are in the habit of making use of this kind of "authorization," interpreted as direct instructions, with extremely excessive zeal.

The draft has not only not been signed by the president yet, but has not officially reached his apparatus. Its sources and authorship can only be a matter of guesswork. However, there have been precedents when some edicts also linked with human rights problems have been signed by the president on his knee as he was about to get on an airplane. As Yuriy Baturin said in answer to our questions over the telephone, in view of the danger posed by drafts of this kind it is permissible to "jump the gun," heading off the real threat hanging over human rights, especially since he is very worried by the "tenor of such initiatives."

We understand what a state of emergency means, we understand the need for it, but we also understand what all this can lead to in practice if you take account of the "compounding of the offense by the perpetrators [ekstsessy ispolniteley]," to use clear, legal language. The editorial office will continue to focus its attention on this subject.

Patriotism Seen as Means To Unify Russia

PM1410154893 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed article: "A Divided Society Must Be United. By Means of the Idea of Motherland, the Idea of Patriotism"]

[Text] The profound divide in our society is, alas, an indisputable fact. Especially since the recent tragic events in Moscow, when it was revealed with merciless clarity: We were edging toward the brink of civil war....

One may talk about political, economic, ideological, and other conflicts. But these exist in any democracy. Why should it be that here in Russia, once again things take extreme, antagonistic forms, permeated with hostility and blood?

That cruel phrase "Russians are killing Russians," uttered in horrified tones by a foreign journalist at the

height of the events, formulates perhaps the key diagnosis: In our social consciousness today, and indeed in many spheres of our life, the sense of nationhood is extremely weak, and the area of civic consensus that is unconditional and independent of all political differences, that makes a country a country, a people a people, and a state a state, is all too narrow.

To some extent this is probably a reaction to the "monolithic unity" of days gone by. But in rejecting the total dominance of one ideology, maybe we have veered to the other extreme—to total diversity of views, diversity of actions, and basically total turmoil in minds and hearts. When political adversaries forget that they share the same ground beneath their feet, that they are citizens of the same state, that (whether they like it or not) they are compatriots!

Today, if we want Russia's good, if we want peace for Russia, the time has clearly come to start speaking loud and clear about national [obshchenatsionalnykh] values—about their primacy over class values, party values, group values, clan values, and so forth. You may think Adam Smith was right, or Marx. You may have idols of every shape and form—from Lenin to Roosevelt, from Stolypin to Thatcher... You may be a "Westernizer" or a "Slavophile," or you may uphold other paths of state development. But there is something above all this—Russia itself. Its unity and peaceful life. Its history and culture. Its great, unique soul. Its heroes and zealots. Its symbolism and its traditions....

You can engage in the fiercest political skirmishes, but they will never lead to intransigence or fratricide if society's political culture firmly incorporates the principle of unity that is sacred and beyond question for all the political adversaries. If we direct our gaze to the experience of those countries that we consider civilized and democratic, we see that this is the way things work there: There is no single, all-conquering ideology, but there is without fail a value system that is shared by the entire nation, and which, incidentally, is invariably cultivated and supported in every way by the state itself and permeates all public life.

Unfortunately, since the days of Gorbachev's perestroyka we have talked increasingly of the "primacy of panhuman values." It has become somehow unfashionable and, worse, not very "progressive" to talk about national values. Worse still, patriotic and national education has rather carelessly been driven out of the schools and many other spheres.

Panhuman values, values common to all mankind—these are undoubtedly enormously precious. They are extremely important and necessary. Surely there is no need to demonstrate the obvious fact that you cannot raise a real citizen, a true son of his Fatherland, on these alone, or chiefly on that basis. Not to mention that without a carefully directed patriotic education it is simply inconceivable to raise and train a real soldier.

The greatest absurdity of recent years, which has done considerable damage to the cause of reforms in Russia, has been the patently fabricated view that democracy and patriotism are in opposition to each other. This opposition has basically pushed into the arms of the Anpilovs and Makashovs thousands of very worthy citizens who are by no means nationalists, extremists, or diehard conservatives, pushed them because this very important spiritual and ideological niche was sometimes left entirely to people of that kind, and because the patriotic feelings of many Russians were often, alas, unable to find any other bulwark or support, due to the patent underestimation of this problem by politicians, the press, cultural personalities, and many of those on whom the social atmosphere in Russia depends. Basically, it has turned out that patriotically minded constructive forces have often been simply stifled by those who reduce everything to the quest for yet more "enemies of the nation" or, conversely, zealously propagandize nihilist, antipatriotic views.

There is another very major problem too. Today, in the course of interpreting the causes and lessons of the October tragedy, many people, including government figures, are pointing out that the reforms being implemented are often not well understood by the broad masses of people, that they have no clear ideology, and that their nature requires a far more energetic and reasoned explanation. All this is true. However, it will not be much use if it just amounts to explaining what a voucher is and where to invest it. As for ideology, it is vitally necessary to clarify both in words and in practice the patriotic crux of the reforms.

After all, you can say "market, democracy"—and fill all the newspapers with hopes pinned on Western aid. And blindly imitate Western economic models. And pursue a spineless foreign policy of endless concessions. And annoy your own people with a torrent of psseudoculture from across the ocean, invading anything and everything. Or else you can say "market, democracy"—and not shrink from measuring all your policy with the clear and specific yardstick of Russia's interests. And maintain a consistent course of supporting Russian industry and Russian enterprise. And, first and foremost, work on the basis of your own traditions in the structure of political and economic life. And staunchly support Russian culture and Russian spiritual life.

In other words, both the image and, even more, the content of the reforms must be something the ordinary Russian can identify with. They must fit in with his national character and dignity. Even if it is difficult. The Russian person will endure anything, tolerate anything, if he is sure that it is for the sake of the Motherland's future, for the good of its children.

The idea of a unified Motherland, the idea of patriotism—that is what could help us today to overcome the excessive taking of sides, people's alienation. That is extremely necessary. After all, this state of dissension and turbulence is undermining the nation's creative potential, and thereby delaying its progress toward the rebirth of Russia.

It is very valuable that both the authorities and many of those who were directly involved in the recent Moscow events, for all the trenchancy and toughness of their assessments of what happened, have still had sufficient restraint and wisdom to recognize it as a tragedy. There is no point in denying that there was a temptation to declare it a "victory." But no, if you look through the prism of those national values, no way is this a victory. It is a tragedy. A common disaster. A disaster for the whole nation. Recognizing this is worth much.

It seems we are after all learning from the lessons of the past. Ahead lie new lessons and new trials. One of the nearest is the now inevitable December elections. What will they be like? What will the election contest focus on? Time will tell. But one can predict, with no great danger of being wrong, that the problem of national values and national interests will be one of the most important preelection themes. After all, this is, so to speak, the hot issue of the day.

As for the voters... Last time, many people chose their deputies on the principle: Who can shout "Down with!" the loudest. We now know what came of this. So maybe we should take a closer look at others—those who are capable of not only holding rallies, but putting forward constructive ideas and being creative, those whose democratism and patriotism lie not in resounding phrases, but in deeds, those whose slogan is never "Down with!" Whose slogan is "For!" For the Motherland, for the Fatherland, for Russia!

Election Issues

Electoral Commission Lists Parties To Contest Election

PM1410140393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 2

[Unattributed report under the "Parties and Movements" rubric: "Who Will Campaign for Seats in State Duma"]

[Text] The Central Electoral Commission has approved the list of all-Russia public associations that can put forward candidates in the State Duma elections. This list includes associations registered by the Russian Ministry of Justice whose charters allow them to participate in elections to federal legislative bodies. We hereby publish this list.

The Russian Creative Union of Cultural Workers
The Democratic Party of Russia
The Social-Democratic Party of the Russian Federation
The Republican Party of the Russian Federation
The Peasant Party of Russia
The Russian Penitentiary Association
The Russian Confederation of Free Trade Unions
The "Shchit" Union for the Social Protection of Servicemen, Reservists, and Members of Their Families
The RSFSR Timber Industries Workers Union
The Russian Association of Victims of Illegal Political Repressions
The Russian Christian Democratic Movement (Party)
The Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Russia
The All-Russia Foundation for the Social-Legal Protection and Rehabilitation of Invalids
The RSFSR "Unity" Trade Unions
The "Soldiers' Mothers" Movement
The "Fathers and Sons" Human Rights Defense Association
The Cherkess (Adygo-Abazin) National KhOSE [expansion unknown]
The All-Russia Sobriety and Health Society
The RSFSR Union of Entrepreneurs and Leaseholders
The Russian Scientific Foundation
The Russian Federation Union of Architects
The Association of Physicians of Russia
The Association of Deaf Artists of Russia
The All-Russia Public Foundation for Protection Against Unemployment
The Society of Motor Vehicle Users of Russia
The Association of Socialist Trade Unions of Russia (SOTSPROF)
The Russian Television and Radio Broadcasting Workers Union
The Russian Christian-Democratic Party
The People's Party of Russia
The Constitutional-Democratic Party (People's Freedom Party)
The Russian Society of Sociologists
The "War Veterans for Peace" Movement
The "Russian Press" Association
The Russian Bourgeois-Democratic Party
The All-Russia "Zori Rossii" [Russian Dawn] Society for Links and Cooperation With Compatriots Overseas
The Russian Party of Democratic Transformations
The Socialist Party of Working People
The Congress of Journalists
The Russian Free Labor Party
The All-Russia "Zagrada" [Barrier] Association for Social Protection of Citizens
The Christian-Democratic Union Party of Russia
The RSFSR Construction and Construction Materials Industry Workers Union
The All-Russia Foundation for Progress, Defense of Human Rights, and Charity
The All-Russia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of and Aid to Victims of Stalinism and Labor Army Members
The League of Independent Scientists of Russia
The Association of Flight Personnel of Russia
The "Aysberg" [Iceberg] Creative Organization of Human Rights Defenders
The All-Russia Association of Veterans (Pensioners) of War, Labor, the Armed Forces, and Law Enforcement Organs
The Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs
The Russian Association of Assistants to People's Deputies
The RSFSR Cosmonautics Federation
The Union of Public Ecological Foundations
The Russian Socioecological Union
The Conservative Party

The Russian Federation Party of Constitutional Democrats
The National-Republican Party of Russia
The European Liberal-Democratic Party
The "Wiedergeburt" ("Rebirth") Society of Germans of the Russian Federation
The "Creation of Peoples for Life" Movement (Senezhskiy Forum)
The Russian Movie and Video Society
The Foundation for the Safe Development of Civilization
The Free Democratic Party of Russia
The "Russian All-National Union" Sociopolitical Movement
The Russian Social-Liberal Party
The Russian Party of Communists
The League of Cooperative Workers and Entrepreneurs of Russia
The Economic Freedom Party
The "Last Military Draft" All-Russia Public Organization of Veterans of the Great Patriotic War
The Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms
The People's Patriotic Party
The Association of Russian Law-Enforcement Organ Personnel
The "Young Republicans" Union
The Association of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Russia
The Cosmonautics Association of Russia
The All-Russia "Renewal" Union (Party)
The "Union of Communists" Party
The Russian Union of Leaders of Territorial Organs of Executive Power—"Governors of Russia"
The Consolidation Party
The Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia
The "Assembly" Public Association
The Russian Social-Democratic Center
The "Freiheit" ("Freedom") Society of Russian Germans
The Agrarian Party of Russia
The "Cedar" Constructive-Ecological Movement
The Russian Christian-Democratic Union—New Democracy (Party)
The "Democratic Choice" Association of Supporters of Reform (Bloc)
The "Entrepreneurs for a New Russia" Association
The "Women of Russia" Political Movement
The "Democratic Russia" Movement
The Youth Movement in Support of the Free Russia People's Party
The "Civic Union" Political-Economic Association

Split Feared Prior to Congress of 'Russia's Choice'

LD1410122793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1158 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuliya Kantor]

[Text] St. Petersburg October 14 TASS—The St. Petersburg delegation will support the equality of regions at the founding congress of Russia's Choice bloc, which opens on Saturday, co-chairman of the Free Democratic Party of Russia Igor Soshnikov told ITAR-TASS today.

He warned that "the greatest danger that may result in the split of the bloc at the founding congress is being created by the attempts of some of its Moscow leaders to take some quota seats away from the regions, in order to secure seats in parliament for Moscow leaders."

The St. Petersburg branch of the Free Democratic Party of Russia announced its intention to join Russia's Choice bloc not long ago, while the Moscow branch of the party has not yet made up its mind.

'Democratic Union' To Join 'Democratic Russia'

LD1410135693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1143 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The Democratic Union of Russia public association intends to become a collective member of the movement Democratic Russia, leader of Democratic Union Valeriya Novodvorskaya announced on Wednesday at a constituent conference of the Moscow regional organization of the election bloc Russia's Choice.

According to Novodvorskaya, the Democratic Union will participate in the election campaign as part of the bloc.

Novodvorskaya declared that Democratic Union of Russia would not make any extremist statements, at least on behalf of Democratic Russia or the Russia's Choice. At the same time Novodvorskaya voiced her apologies for her previous statements which could negatively affect image of the whole democratic movement in Russia due to their radicalism.

The constituent conference of the Moscow regional organization Russia's Choice proposed Novodvorskaya as delegate to the constituent congress of this bloc scheduled for October 16-17 in Moscow.

Shakhray Comments on Plans To Run in Duma Election

LD1410175693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1653 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—The Party of Russian Unity and Concord will convene its founding conference on October 16-17, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray told reporters at the president and government's press office on Thursday [14 October]. This party, of which Shakhray was one of the initiators, will not enter the election bloc "Russia's Choice", he noted.

The new party is expected to be rather small and based on individual membership. It will rest on republican, territorial and regional branches, "the number of Moscow politicans being reduced to the minimum", Shakhray stressed.

The deputy prime minister intends to run for the state duma (the lower chamber of a new Russian legislature).

He does not share the view by certain government officials that a parliamentary mandate cannot be combined with work in the Cabinet of Ministers. He believes this position prompted the recent hard-line putsch and now may restore the state of dual power in the country.

Shakhray does not agree either that regional leaders cannot be elected to the Council of the Federation (the upper chamber of a new legislature). He is firmly convinced that Russia's provinces should be represented in the parliament's upper house by the leaders who are to coordinate decisions at the federal level and then implement them at the local one. He believes both the council of heads of republics and the council of heads of administrations may exist under new conditions and meet in joint sessions.

When asked about the fate of the constitutional convention, the deputy prime minister said it may go ahead with its work. A new Russian basic law can be adopted either by a new parliament or by a nationwide people's vote, shakray believes. He does not rule out the possibility of a referendum on the draft constitution on December 12.

Duma Electoral District System Explained

PM1510093593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Lyudmila Yermakova report: "Formation of 225 Electoral Districts"]

[Text] The Central Electoral Commission has ratified the plan for single-seat districts for the elections to the Russian Federation State Duma. There are to be 225 of them. This is as many seats as are to be allocated to deputies from single-seat districts in the lower chamber of the Federal Assembly under the so-called majority system. In other words, each district can delegate a single deputy to the future parliament.

The electoral districts have been "parceled out," as lawyers say, over the entire territory of Russia by the Central Electoral Commission in conjunction with representatives of Federation components, who came specially to the capital with maps of their territories. According to the statute on the elections, the "equality of okrugs as regards voter numbers" should be observed "with a permissible deviation of up to 15 percent." The borders of rayons, cities, and city rayons are to be observed.

The okrugs contain around 500,000 voters on average. Consequently, there are republics constituting a single okrug, such as, for instance, Adygeia, Buryatia, Karelia, and Sakha (Yakutia), and there are krays and oblasts containing several okrugs. Thus, Altay, Krasnodar, and Stavropol Krays and Volgograd, Irkutsk, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts contain four to seven okrugs each.

Moscow, with its multimillion population, can nominate 15 deputies to the State Duma; 15 districts have been constituted there. The largest is Tsentralnyy District (more than 498,000 people entitled to vote), which is located in the city's Tsentralnyy Administrative District. But not all electoral districts in the capital coincide with administrative districts. In particular, there are the Babushkinskiy, Varshavskiy, Kashirskiy, and Universitetskiy Districts. There are eight districts in Russia's second city. St. Petersburg's smallest district, Yuzhnyy, contains more than 415,000 people. Apart from city territory proper, it also includes Pavlovsk and Pushkinskiy Rayon.

The average number of voters, 500,000 per territory, was not a dogmatic figure. Respect for ethnic representation in the country's highest legislative organ prevailed. Consequently, there are far fewer voters in autonomous okrugs. The Evenki Autonomous Okrug did not even "make it" to 14,000, the Koryak Autonomous Okrug has fewer than 25,000, and the Nenetsk and Taymyr Okrugs have approximately 32,000 apiece.

By Central Electoral Commission decision, additional polling places may be included in certain electoral districts for Russian citizens permanently domiciled abroad.

Election Organization, Press Coverage Aims Outlined

PM1510085593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Nikita Vaynonen article under the general heading "Russia Before the Elections": "The List of Parties Is a Reality. For Whom Will We State a Preference?"]

[Text] A list of parties, social movements, and associations which may take part in the December elections is published today on page two of ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI. Newspapers have been quick to use the word "admitted" to the elections. This is not accurate. Naturally the list does not contain any parties or organizations whose activity was suspended after the October tragedy. As for the rest, they do not need any kind of "admission" permit from anybody. It is a question of which social organizations enjoy the right to nominate candidates. I will run through the conditions for qualifying for this right.

The rules of a party, movement, or association must be registered at the Russian Federation Ministry of Justice. This document must provide for the possibility of the party's participation in elections. For a party to participate in all-Russia elections it must have federal status. The list being published is merely a list of those registered social associations which meet these conditions. Inclusion in it by no means signifies that the party in question has been "permitted" anything. Any association can insert in its rules a clause on the possibility of participating in elections or not as it sees fit. In precisely the same way, not a single party asked either to be put on or taken off the list. Its publication is purely a matter of procedure, with no political nuances. Finally, inclusion in the list does not mean that everybody who is named in it will nominate candidates. And the numerical order means absolutely nothing. It just depends on the date of registration. It is unlikely that, say, the Russian Creative

Union of Cultural Workers, having registered before everyone else, back on 14 March 1991, and thus placed at number one, or the All-Russia Society of Invalids, which should have been Number 92 (it is absent from the published list as it has only just been added to it), will be able to put candidates forward autonomously. After all, this requires that the signatures of no less than 1 percent of voters in a single-mandate district be collected, while at a federal level 100,000 signatures are required, of which no more than 15 percent must come from any one federation component.

Political sympathies notwithstanding, there is no doubt that the complexity and expense of the election campaign will become—indeed, already have become—one of the most powerful incentives for forming electoral blocs. The largest to date is "Russia's Choice." It comprises the "Democratic Russia" movement, the Party of Economic Freedom, the All-Russia Association of Privatized and Private Enterprises, the Association of Private Farms and Cooperatives, the League of Cooperative Managers and Entrepreneurs, the "Living Ring" union of defenders of a free Russia, the "Radical Democrats" faction, the "Military for Democracy" movement, and some other associations.

The Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms is evidently going to act alone. This is the decision its leader has taken so far, at any rate. The groups of parties of centrist and "left-wing" orientation make up a complex picture. All this will be discussed in greater detail, including in ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI. Right now, at the very start of the election campaign, it is fitting to say just one thing. Not counting the 1917 elections to the Constituent Assembly, the results of which were canceled by the Bolsheviks, in December 1993 we face what are strictly speaking the first truly free, democratic election of a representative authority in Russia's history. History has seen to it that the preparations have to be made, given the situation, in a very short space of time. The forecasts indicate that most Russians will turn out to vote. Our newspaper articles will help to give a greater understanding of the candidates' various programs and comparative chances. Each person will make the choice that he thinks best for Russia.

'Everyone Gains' From Double Election Postponement

PM1510090793 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Aleksandr Pelts report: "Liberal Democrats Start Off, and... the Registration of Candidates from Political Parties and Movements Has Started in the Central Electoral Commission"]

[Text] As Valeriy Krasnyanskiy, member of the Central Electoral Commission working group for cooperation with social associations, has reported to the editorial office, the Ministry of Justice has finally determined the list of parties and movements which have the right to participate in the elections. There are 92 of these organizations in all.

The only party which had officially presented lists of its candidates as of 13 October is Vladimir Volfovich Zhirinovskiy's party. The Liberal Democrats have put forward 160 candidates. Let us recall that the lists of candidates from political parties and public associations and their blocs, together with the lists signed by voters, must be presented to the Central Electoral Commission by 7 November. The lists are to be registered and published within five days.

Other parties and movements have also displayed very high activeness in nominating candidates. In Chelyabinsk, for example, the "Russia's Choice" oblast bloc parties have nominated the following: Aleksandr Pochinok, Russian first deputy finance minister; city soviet deputies Yevgeniy Turbanov and Larisa Subbotina; and Vladimir Golovnev, deputy head of the oblast administration.

Parties of various hues are seeking consultations with the working group on conducting the election campaign. As Valeriy Krasnyanskiy stressed, the Justice Ministry list includes the Russian Party of Communists, although admittedly it has yet to name its candidates.

The "Russia's Choice" bloc has the greatest chance of a successful election, political observers believe. The bloc brings together many parties and well-known leaders from the government "team" headed by Yegor Gaydar. The "Democratic Russia" bloc will most probably join it too, in order to strengthen pre-election positions.

Certain powerful movements such as the Russian Democratic Movement (leader—Gavriil Popov), as well as the party led by Konstantin Borovoy, which brings together successful Russian entrepreneurs in its ranks (the Economic Freedom Party), have not had their say yet. But they will probably fight for seats independently without joining any bloc or movement. Nikolay Travkin (Democratic Party of Russia) has similar intentions.

The "centrists" (Civic Union) are conducting active consultations at present. Like the communists, (the Russian Federation Communist Party led by Gennadiy Zyuganov), however, they now have a great many problems in connection with recent events in Moscow and the subsequent discontinuance of the activity of various parties and movements, mainly of a communist orientation (the Russian Federation Communist Party and the "Free Russia" People's Party) Observers believe, however, they do have room to maneuver by including their candidates on election lists via parties and movements of a socialist orientation.

The main election "skirmishes" are still ahead of us, of course. You can easily assume that the main fight will develop over seats in the Federation Council, the upper chamber of the Federal Assembly. It will approve or reject documents elaborated by deputies from the State Duma. So it is entirely possible that for the sake of these "senatorial" places, parties and movements will regroup their forces and, by the time of the election, will have significantly changed the present disposition of political forces.

And another prediction concerning the election date, the election is scheduled for 12 December. But views have already emerged to the effect that there are grounds for postponement because of the simultaneous polls for the two chambers. In that case everyone will gain: The candidates will have more time for canvassing, and we the voters will have more time for studying their programs.

Economic Issues

Chubays: High Price To Pay for Reform of Government

PM1410154193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Deputy Prime Minister's Viewpoint" rubric: "Anatoliy Chubays: Inflation Rates Will Drop to 10 Percent a Month by the End of the Year"]

[Text] In the deputy prime minister's opinion, this can be achieved by tightening credit and finance policy. Among other things, it is necessary to abolish preferential credit and to increase the Central Bank of Russia's refunding rate. The vice premier also sees state help in expanding export possibilities for enterprises, in particular cutting down quotas and export licenses, as measures which further the revival of the Russian economy. The possibility of a sharp drop in the purchase of foodstuffs abroad, primarily grain, is a wholly realistic prospect. It is also vital to plug any further fall in the ruble exchange rate.

"It is crazy and pointless to think that reforms of such depth and complexity can be conducted painlessly," A. Chubays believes. "There is a high price to pay not only for altering the government's style of activity, but also for the fact that we are changing the foundations of a state. This will affect everybody."

Zaveryukha Says Harvesting Situation 'Catastrophic'

PM1510092593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Help Bring In the Harvest!"]

[Text] The harvest situation in Russia is becoming "catastrophic" and "it will hardly prove possible to harvest everything that has been cultivated" in the time remaining before the onset of the cold spells, given the slow pace of harvesting work. According to INTERFAX, this comment was made in a letter, which Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha, the member of the Russian Federation Government responsible for the agrarian sector, sent to President Boris Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. The main reasons for harvesting schedules being disrupted are, according to the vice premier, not only the difficult weather conditions, but also "the virtually total suspension of funding for the agro-industrial complex and of settlements with agricultural producers for the produce they sell." The result being that, of late, customers owe the agro-industrial complex a total of over 1.5 trillion rubles.

The vice premier asked the president to "urgently" examine the state of harvest funding, credit provision, and harvest procurement and take "urgent steps to prevent the harvest being destroyed and to provide the population with food."

Official: Gas, Transport Price Hikes Not Planned

LD1410121493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1155 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Vdovin]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—Rumours about price rises on petrol and urban transport fares as of October 15 are not right. The question of price rises on petrol are not even planned to be considered shortly, Aleksandr Korolko, the chief of the pricing policy agency of the Moscow administration, told ITAR-TASS.

As to bread prices, the Moscow administration's departments of the finance, pricing and economic policy consider two variants. A quarterly subsidy of 18 billion roubles is needed for bread prices to remain unchanged. "If the government is unable to find these sums for the subsidy, bread prices will rise by 70-90 per cent, Korolko said. No rise of fare in urban passenger transport is planned shortly, ITAR-TASS was told in Moscow's transport ministry.

Inflation Rises Again in Early October

PM1410145193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Irina Goryacheva of the Russian Government Center for Economic Conditions: "Early October: Inflation 5 Percent"]

[Text] Inflation rose again in early October—to 5 percent per week. Since the beginning of the year consumer prices have risen 510 percent.

Services to the population last week again registered the biggest price increase—almost 17 percent. Places in sanatoriums and tourist accommodations went up significantly—by over 40 percent—despite the end of the vacation season. City bus fares went up by an average of 20 percent, and hotel rooms became 17 percent more expensive.

The highest inflation in the past week was in the Far East and Volga-Vyatka regions, and the lowest—in the North and Northwest regions.

The increase in food prices in the past week was again lower than the increase in nonfood goods. Flour and vegetable oil saw the biggest price increases over the week—9 percent. The price of eggs increased by 8 percent compared with last week, that of dairy products, groats, and pasta increased by 6 percent, and that of bread and flour products and animal fat increased by 5 percent.

Early October again saw considerable differences between food price movements in individual economic

regions—the spread was 9 percentage points (the week before it was 4 percent). For Russia as a whole basic products have gone up 410 percent since the beginning of the year, the biggest increase being for meat products—600 percent.

Despite the high inflation, there is a slight downturn in consumer activity—2.2 percent. This suggests that the population is still disoriented as to the correlation between the level of prices and its real incomes. The sale of basic products declined not in the markets, but in stores of all types of ownership.

The average monthly cost of a basket of the 19 most important products as of 5 October stood at 21,200 rubles [R]. The cost of this basket at the prices in organized trade outlets was R20,300; it was R26,300 at nonorganized trade prices.

Among the 132 Russian cities monitored by the State Committee for Statistics the largest growth in the cost of the basket was in: Volgograd—28 percent; Ulyanovsk—21 percent; and Obninsk—20 percent.

The cost of the basket in Moscow rose over the week by 3.6 percent (to R24,500) and in St. Petersburg by 2.7 percent (to R22,800).

Centralized Import of Food Significantly Reduced

LD1410140393 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1143 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Vice-Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha, in charge of agricultural affairs in the cabinet, has told Interfax that Russian state structures have slashed the centralized import of basic food stuffs and plan to stop importing them in 1984 [year as received]. At the same time, he stressed that commercial structures will "most likely" continue to buy food abroad and supply it to the Russian market.

Russia is reducing by more than 100 percent this year, as compared with 1992, the import of food grain. No more than 12 Mn [million] tons of grain are to be purchased, whereas last year 26 Mn tons were imported. In 1993, Zaverykha said, the country does not intend to import "a single ton" of food grain since 105-107 Mn tons harvested this year "along with this year's remnants" are enough to meet Russia's requirements in full.

The import of meat products by Russia for January-September 1993 was 30 percent of last year's corresponding level (92,000 tons), powdered milk—10 percent (2400 tons) and vegetable oil 8 percent (34,000 tons). Although the purchases of sugar top the list of imported food stuffs (1,470 tons), even they accounted for only 54 percent of the 1992 level. Although Russia bought 4,600 tons of butter in 1992, it did not import it at all over 9 months this year.

Military Issues

Military Conducts 'Large-Scale Strategic' Exercises

LD1510103593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0928 GMT 15 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Belyakov]

[Text] Samara October 15 TASS—The Russian military finished up on Friday large-scale strategic exercises, conducted under the name "center" in the central part of the Russian Federation.

The officers and rank-and-file of the Volga, Ural and Siberian military regions took part in the exercises. They practiced quick transition to maximum battle-readiness. The exercises were also used to check in practice some provisions of new Russian military theories.

The commander of the strategic exercises, Deputy-Minister of Defense General-Lieutenant Georgiy Kondratyev, especially praised the work of the Volga military region.

Yeltsin Makes Changes Among Military Personnel

PM1510094393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Appointments"]

[Text] By edict of the Russian Federation president:

Aleksandr Vladimirovich Kurtin is relieved of his duties as chairman of the board of the Russian Federation Pensions Fund;

Vasiliy Vasilyevich Barchuk is appointed acting chairman of the board of the Russian Federation Pensions Fund;

Sergey Nikolayevich Almazov is appointed director of the Russian Federation Tax Police Department;

Lieutenant General Vladimir Mikhaylovich Zhurbenko is appointed first deputy chief of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff and is relieved of his duties as deputy chief of the Russian Federation Armed Forces General Staff;

Vildan Suleymanovich Uzbekov is appointed Russian Federation deputy general prosecutor and is relieved of his previous duties.

Grachev Addresses Afghan Veterans Group

LD1410151593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1440 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—"We have managed to put out the fire of civil war, but we should keep vigilance," said Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev at a meeting of founders of the People's Patriotic Party (PPP) and

Russia's Union of Veterans of Afghan War, held in the central house of the Russian Army today.

The PPP was established in 1992 on the initiative and on the basis of the Russia's Union of Afghan Veterans. At present, the PPP comprises over 170 primary organisations set up in different regions of the Russian Federation and numbering over 112,000 people. The party seeks to carry out socio-economic transformations by "granting a most-favoured status to the presidential and the government course for carrying out reforms."

Grachev highly assessed the activities of the Union of Afghan Veterans in Moscow on October 3-4. He said that former Afghan servicemen displayed a strong realization of the fact as to what civil war might lead in the country stuffed with nuclear weapons, nuclear power stations, chemical and other facilities." [quotation marks as received]

According to Grachev, in the near future he was going to appeal to the government with a request that "the public and state movement of Afghan soldiers be restored" on the basis of the union of Afghan war veterans.

During the meeting the PPP circulated a statement on its joining the election campaign and nominating candidates to the State Duma.

Says Yeltsin Must Remain Until '96

LD1410170593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1428 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev says that Boris Yeltsin must continue as Russian President until 1996 when his term of office expires. He was speaking at a meeting of regional leaders of the Russian Union of Veterans of the Afghan War and People's Patriotic Party in Moscow on Thursday [14 October]. He said that once the nation has allowed Yeltsin to rule the country until 1996, so let it be.

In his view, Yeltsin must be allowed to work in peace before a new presidential campaign begins in two years time.

On the recent rebellion in Moscow and the fate of Aleksandr Rutskoy, himself a veteran of the Afghan war, the minister said he was sorry for the former Vice-President as man but not as a political leader. "As politician, he is a criminal," Grachev said.

On Yeltsin's and the government's behalf, the minister thanked the war veterans for siding up with the government during the rebellion. At the same time, he called for vigiliance. What we put down was only the flame, Grachev said. And he added that this did not mark the onset of comprehensive peace yet. "Those people have just gone quiet for the time being," he said.

Defense Ministry Aide Denies Rumors of Purge

LD1410195493 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Interview with Yelena Agapova, defense minister's assistant for public and press relations, by correspondent I. Krondo; place and date not given; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Krondo] Recently rumors have become widespread in Moscow about a forthcoming purge of the top leadership of the Russian Armed Forces. Figures have even been indicated - namely, up to 20 percent of the members of the Defense Ministry's collegium. The reason for this is allegedly President Boris Yeltsin's dissatisfaction with the position of particular military chiefs during the days of the revolt.

Are there any grounds for these rumors?

[Agapova] I want to state in a fully responsible way that there are no real grounds for these rumors. As you know, an assessment of the Army's actions on the days of 3 and 4 October was given both by the president and commander in chief and by the country's prime minister. During those days the entire top military leadership was united in its actions, and the Army was totally under control.

Commanders Discuss Discipline Among Moscow Troops

LD1410131593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0427 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" broadcast of the Russian Defense MInistry]

[Text] Lieutenant General Aleksandr Gorbachev, assistant to the commander of the Moscow military district for personnel work, has met assistant commanders in charge of educational work in the various units which are currently based at Khodynka Field in Moscow [area to which units involved in White House operations were withdrawn shortly after events of 3 and 4 October]. The main subjects of the meeting were military discipline and servicemen's living conditions.

Media Issues

Dailies Banned; PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Continue

LD1410132493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1312 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—The Russian Press and Information Ministry banned a dozen of small hard-line opposition newspapers, but allowed the two major ones—"PRAVDA" and "SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA" - to come out under a new name.

The banned newspapers include, "GAZETA DUKHOVNOY OPPOZITSII", "NARODNAYA

PRAVDA", "RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIE", "RUSSKIYE VEDOMOSTI", "RUSSKIY PULS", "RUSSKIY PORYADOK", "ZA RUS", "NASH MARSH", "NATIONALIST", "RUSSKOYE SLOVO", "MOSKOVSKIY TRAKTOR", "RUSSKIY SOYUZ", "K TOPORU", and television programme 600 Seconds and the ministry said criminal proceedings will be instituted against them. The major opposition "DYEN" newspaper was also banned.

Publications and broadcasts carried by these newspapers have to a great extent promoted the distabilisation of the situation during mass disorders in Moscow at the end of September and early in October and the organisation of the revolt, the ministry said.

International Society of Writers, which was one of the founders of the "GAZETA DUKHOVNOY OPPOZITSII," has refused to be the newspaper's founder. [sentence as received] Criminal proceedings have been instituted against the pornographic newspaper "YESCHE" (MORE). The publication and circulation of the newspaper has been suspended pending a court verdict.

Editors-in-chief of newspapers PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA have been relieved of their duties. After being registered anew, the publication of these newspapers will be resumed under new titles, the ministry said.

The newspaper GLASNOST has been closed since it has failed to re-register. The newspaper "RUSSKIY VESTNIK" was recommended to review the concept of the publication after which the newspaper will be allowed to come out again, according to the ministry.

Subscriptions Suspension Ordered 'Accidentally'

PM1510104393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 3

[Special correspondent Ruslan Ignatyev report: "Subscription to ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Stopped Accidentally.... So States the Russian Ministry of Communications"]

[Text] The editorial office receives phone calls every day from irate readers who tell us that local communications departments are refusing to process subscriptions for ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA. We have been getting the same information from our newspaper's own correspondents in different parts of the country.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA special correspondent Ruslan Ignatyev phoned Aleksandr Aleshin, Russian Federation first deputy minister of communications, and asked him to comment on these reports.

"Clearly the directive to suspend subscriptions to ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA was issued accidentally," Aleksandr Alekseyevich reported. "This order is currently inoperative. We will be holding a telephone linkup with all regional communications enterprises at 0800 on 14 October, at which a detailed explanation will be provided."

From the editorial office: We hope that this "accident" will not result in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA's losing any subscribers, and that readers will have the opportunity and the time to subscribe to our newspaper. Especially since the Russian Ministry of Communications is planning to extend the subscription period by 10 days.

Decree Establishing 'Radio Podmoskvya' Published

PM1510105793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 4

[Decree No. 1014 of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government "On the Establishment of the 'Radio Podmoskovya' State Radio Company", dated Moscow, 7 October 1993 and signed by V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government]

[Text] In order to improve and develop state radio broadcasting and provide comprehensive information to the population of Moscow Oblast and neighboring regions on the Moscow area's economic, social, and cultural life, the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government decrees:

1. That the proposals of the Russian Federation Ministry of the Press and Information on establishing the "Radio Podmoskovya" State Radio Company based on the "Radio Podmoskovya" studio of the "Ostankino" Russian State Television and Radio Company, and the city and rayon editorial offices for radio broadcasting in Moscow Oblast, which are subordinate to the ministry, be accepted.

The radio broadcasting company's founders are the Moscow Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, the Moscow Oblast Administration, and the Russian Federation Ministry of the Press and Information.

2. That the proposal of the Russian Federation Ministry of the Press and Information and Moscow Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies to transfer in the prescribed manner property of the city and rayon editorial offices for radio broadcasting in Moscow Oblast, which are subordinate to the aforementioned ministry, to state ownership of Moscow Oblast and to place it under the authority of "Radio Podmoskovya" State Radio Company, be accepted.

3. That the "Ostankino" Russian State Television and Radio Company together with the founders of the "Radio Podmoskovya" State Radio Company determine, and the Russian Federation State Committee for the Management of State Property approve, a procedure for utilizing the property, material and technical resources, and premises of the "Ostankino" Russian State Television and Radio Company which have been assigned to this radio company.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers-Government.

State Broadcast Official on Ostankino Storming

PM1410112193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 2

[Report by Tatyana Akkuratova: "Lessons of Storming of 'Ostankino.' Vyacheslav Bragin, chairman of the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, Describes Them To ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI Correspondent]

[Text] The flowers placed after the 3-4 October events at Ostankino where its defenders Nikolay Sitnikov and video engineer Sergey Krasilnikov died have not yet withered. The windows of the first floors, smashed by the trucks of the attackers, have been boarded up and the walls of the offices are covered in soot from the fire...

The television center building is now guarded by armored personnel carriers and special militia detachments and militiamen with assault rifles check passes

"But at the time the enormous television complex was guarded by fewer than 50 men armed only with rubber truncheons and a few assault rifles," says Vyacheslav Bragin, chairman of the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company.

He has obviously not yet calmed down after the events—his description of the attack by those who were led to Ostankino by Makashov and Anpilov was so emotional. And these were not old men and women they had duped but inveterate thugs who have the dead in the Dniester region, Karabakh, and Abkhazia on their consciences. Bragin describes how he made unsuccessful telephone calls to the "power" ministries and asked them to send help but it never arrived, being held up for several hours somewhere near Lenin Avenue. And then Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov urgently sent 100 men. He shows me the ITA building, part of which, set alight by molotov cocktails, was engulfed in flames.

"ITA director Boris Nepomnyashchiy 'held' the first channel to the last, constantly reporting to me how far the attackers were from the broadcasting zone. And only when it was impossible to wait any longer did we decide to turn off the first TV channel. Three minutes later Boris' office was reduced to rubble. We could not allow Makashov and anpilov to go on the air—they were traveling with their own 'television men' from the notorious 'Parliamentary Hour.' In addition, it is painful to relate, there were several 'Ostankino' staffers with them."

[Akkuratova] But to deprive millions of people of information? After all an empty screen at such a moment is terrible...

[Bragin] But we did not turn off the first channel, we switched it to a Russian TV channel! This happened at approximately 2030 hours, I repeat under conditions of a direct threat of seizure of the broadcasting zone by the attackers and of their considerable superiority in terms of numerical strength and weapons and extreme slowness in the arrival of a reinforcement for our defenders. And before that there were talks with Oleg Poptsov, chairman of the All-Russia State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company. We decided that in the event of danger we would transfer to the Russian TV studios those correspondents of ours who were outside "Ostankino." Shumeyko, Poltoranin, and Chernomyrdin knew of the possibility of such actions. And our colleagues on the Yamskoye Pole were preparing for possible reception of the channel.

The measures we took made it possible to retain in full the possibility of informing all regions of Russia of the events taking place in Moscow, Bragin continued. And after the defense had stabilized to some extent, after the firemen under submachinegun fire had nonetheless managed to put out the fire in the ITA building from which the television signal was being transmitted, I took steps to resume broadcasting on the first channel—"Novosti" went out on the air again on 4 October at 1200 hours.

Bitter lessons must be drawn from the storming of "Ostankino," to which material damage of over 10 billion rubles has been caused. I repeat, first of all there was the utter lack of protection of the television center. Its people cannot be subjected endlessly to such ordeals. A strategic establishment, it was in practice open to any extremists—they would not be stopped by the lightweight mobile barriers and plate glass of the first floors. Surely it is not normal for the territory of a television center to be criss-crossed by city bus routes? [Bragin ends]

As the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company leader rightly believes, it is essential to take steps to ensure "Ostankino's" long-term safety. The television company is now elaborating a document on this problem for the Russian Federation president.

But there is also the moral aspect of the question. And however painful it may be it concerns journalists. How could they fling mud at their colleagues who continued to work under fire, accusing them of being in a hurry to halt broadcasting? Especially as it was not military men who were working but people who were entirely civilians, including a very large number of women. The leader of the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company even asked the president to create a commission to check his activity during the storming of the television company.

Official Discusses Problems With TV Companies

PM1510094593 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 93 p 1

[Interview with Aleksandr Lyubimov by "S.B." on 13 October; place not given: "Joyless View of the Future"]

[Text] Wednesday evening I telephoned Aleksandr Lyubimov:

[Lyubimov] Our council of directors will meet tomorrow. I cannot at present say anything specific about the company's fate.

[S.B.] Have you not yet held talks with either Russian Television or St. Petersburg Television?

[Lyubimov] It seems to me that both these channels will have a lot of unpleasantness because of us.

[S.B.] But is there a way out of the situation?

[Lyubimov] We have branches in the regions and good links with local studios. We can operate through them. "ViD" from underground is also a way out, particularly as we have rich experience here. In the last resort we will write for newspapers.

[S.B.] The "Ostankino" directors cannot forgive you for the only "good night" of 3-4 October, can they?

[Lyubimov] It seems to me that taking off political programs before the elections is certainly no coincidence.

Regional Affairs

Roundup of Local Soviets' Responses To Election Call

PM1410133793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Irina Ovchinnikova report "based on reports from ITAR-TASS and from IZVESTIYA correspondents Valeriy Kornev, Valeriy Mirolevich, Viktor Filippov, Sergey Krayukhin, Boris Bronshteyn, Oleg Borodin, Arnold Pushkar, and Aleksandr Zinovyev:" "Soviets Surrender Their Positions. Voluntarily, Under Pressure, or They Resist"]

[Text] News agencies and IZVESTIYA correspondents in the provinces are filing reports about how the president's edict on gradual constitutional reform is being implemented. Although it is not easy, although some deputies' disagreement is being overcome, many oblast and rayon soviet power organs are deciding to liquidate themselves.

Thus, over 100 Tula Oblast Soviet deputies—an absolute majority—have relinquished their powers. Its chairman, Yu. Litvintsev, former first secretary of the CPSU oblast committee, and his deputy, N. Skachkova, have tendered their resignations. A session of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) Supreme Soviet did likewise.

At the same time soviets in a number of oblasts have been disbanded by decisions adopted by administration heads. This is what has happened in Omsk, Leningrad, and Vologda Oblasts. St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak ordered that rayon soviets' premises be sealed up. In Perm Oblast all buildings and property belonging to them have been placed under guard.

In Tatarstan both the Supreme Soviet and Kazan City Soviet will consider the questions of self-reformation at their next sessions 18 and 25 October. Most likely early elections to representative organs of power at all levels will be declared here. The Supreme Soviet will evidently be replaced by a people's assembly (the organ may be called something else) operating on a professional basis. Village and settlement soviets, as well as city rayon soviets, will probably be disbanded.

Whereas a Voronezh Oblast Soviet session, having agreed to participate in gradual constitutional reform and declared invalid its earlier decision condemning Edict No. 1400, at the same time not only refused to disband but also retained its inner soviet.

The Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet got out of the situation in a similar way. On 12 October it rescinded its own decree suspending the validity of the Russian Federation president's 21 September edict on the republic's territory, announced the republic's participation in elections to the Federal Assembly's State Duma 12 December 1993, and gave the Supreme Soviet Presidium jointly with the republic government three weeks to elaborate, taking account of public opinion, a legislative basis for reforming state power organs and draft laws on elections to supreme and local representative organs and to submit recommendations on the dates for holding such elections. At the same time deputies argued against the self-dissolution of parliament and local soviets.

Volgograd Oblast Soviet deputies adopted an even more intransigent stance. They declined the offer to disband made by democratic factions. As regards Ivan Shabukin, head of the oblast administration, it was he who formulated the first point of the inner soviet's decision after disagreeing with the president's actions. Since poll results testify that most Volgograd inhabitants support these actions, the problem of the soviets' self-disbandment spilled over into a rally, at which a resolution proposed the resignation of oblast soviet Chairman Aleksandr Morozov.

Thus, events are developing in three main directions: The soviets in which democratic sentiments prevail are disbanding themselves; those in which democrats are not in the majority but common sense prevails are obeying the decisions of oblast administrations; and, finally, in the soviets in which the former communist nomenklatura has the loudest voice resistance to the president's edict continues.

Buryat Quashes Anti-Yeltsin Resolution

LD1410123293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1103 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Trofimov]

[Text] Ulan-Ude October 14 TASS—An extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet, parliament, of Buryatia, a republic in the south-east of Russia, discussed the situation in the republic and preterm elections of its bodies of state authority. The session has quashed the resolution of the parliament's presidium which qualified the Russian president's decree on stage-by-stage constitutional reform in Russia as an unconstitutional act. The session continues.

Buryat Abolishes Soviets

LD1510104493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A referendum on the need to elect the head of the republic will be held in Buryatia on 12 December, the day of elections to the Russian State Duma. This decision has been adopted by the Buryat Supreme Soviet, which has also extended its powers until next March. The session adopted a decision on halting the powers of all local soviets. Their executive and administrative functions have been transferred to the executive bodies, Interfax has reported.

Altay Chairman Opposes Dissolution

LD1410130393 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The problem of the reorganization of the representative bodies is also being examined today at an extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the republic of Altay and of the Altay Kray soviet. On the eve of the session, Kray soviet Chairman Aleksandr Surikov made known his opinion that, while recognizing the need for reforming the bodies of representative power, he was, however, categorically opposed to the dissolution of the soviets, believing that this would mean that the soviets were admitting blame for something they had not done.

Siberian, Far Eastern Regions

MK1410140693 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 65, 14 Oct 93 (signed to press 13 Oct) p 2

[Roundup of reports based on materials of the INTERFAX and RIA-NOVOSTI news agencies under the "Provincial Chronicle" rubric]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Novosibirsk. The city's pollsters have conducted a survey showing that 41.5 percent of Novosibirsk residents will vote for Boris Yeltsin in the upcoming presidential elections. The approval rating of another candidate, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, is much lower—11.3 percent. Mikhail Gorbachev came a distant third with 6.5 percent of the vote. So far, 35 percent have not made a definitive choice. [passage omitted]

Syktyvkar. "The Komi Supreme Soviet does not plan to abolish rayon and city soviets on the republic's territory," Komi Parliament Chief Yuriy Spiridonov said. "However, if the soviets make their own decision on abolishing themselves, this will be another matter," he added. Yuriy Spiridonov rejected the idea of halting the activity of the republic's parliament, which has been voiced by some public organizations. In his words, this will be "a sellout with respect to our voters, and the Republic of Komi may lose its statehood." [passage omitted]

Blagoveshchensk. The Amursk Oblast Administration has taken over the functions of the representative branch. Oblast Administration Chief Vladimir Polevanov passed this decree citing the fact that the oblast soviet session never rescinded its previous decision "On Noncompliance With the Edict of the Russian Federation President on Phased Constitutional Reform in Oblast Territory." He ordered that all bodies of government and authorities comply with the presidential edict and decrees of the Russian Government.

Khabarovsk. On Wednesday, the session of the kray soviet turned down suggestions from a number of deputies that the item of the kray soviet's self-dissolution be included in the agenda. In their decision, the deputies deemed it advisable to "reform, and to conduct early elections to, the kray's representative body." At the same time, it was suggested that these elections should be held simultaneously with the elections to the Russian Federal Assembly.

Republics Implementing Decree on Bodies of Power

LD1410165893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The presidential administration directorate for work with territories has informed our correspondent that the majority of the republics within the Russian Federation are now taking measures to implement the presidential decree on reforming representative bodies of power and local self-government bodies. Instead of cumbersome Supreme Soviets, small representative bodies consisting of 40-50 professionals are being set up.

However, a number of subjects of the Federation are adopting a special stand on this issue. Karmokov, chairman of the Kabarda- Balkarian Supreme Soviet, believes it is necessary to preserve the present parliament until early elections are held. Elections in Mordova are planned to be held only next June. In this connection, in a conversation with our correspondent Andrey Zenkov, Nikolay Medvedev, head of the directorate, expressed concern over the possibility of election results being falsified in cases when elections are held under the patronage of local soviets.

Regional Officials React to Reforming of Councils

LD1410174693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1324 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Kemerovo—Deputies who gathered for a special session of the Kemerovo regional council on Thursday, honoured the memory of the fallen during the October events in Moscow with a minute of silence.

However, the session was not held, since over half the deputies did not turn up by the set time. All, including chairman of the regional council Aman Tuleyev (who ran for the presidency at the last presidential elections won by Boris Yeltsin), quietly heard a report by the

chairman of the regional administration that, in compliance with the Russian president's decree, the implementation of executive functions which were earlier the province of the Kemerovo Regional Council, are now vested with the executive power up to the time of elections and the start of work of new representative bodies of power.

Responding to the above report, Tuleyev said that deputies performed their duty with honour and added: "We go to our constituencies with this feeling".

St. Petersburg—There are no dissatisfied people among deputies and staffers of local councils in the Leningrad region.

Head of the Leningrad regional administration Aleksandr Belyakov noted that there were "no personal tragedies among deputies", working permanently at councils, during the days which passed after his decision to discontinue the operation of local councils.

Just a few persons who disagreed with the presidential decree, demonstratively left their offices. The rest came to the offices of local administrations and are now preoccupied with preparations for the coming elections to a Federal Assembly and local representative bodies.

Samara—Some members of the Samara Regional Council leadership again denounced the policy of the Russian president towards local councils at a meeting held on Thursday.

Many local deputies gave up their powers in protest against destructive actions by their colleagues. The other part of deputies decided to continue their work up to their re-election.

Kirov—Kirov Mayor Anzheli Mikheyev announced this morning that he disbands the Kirov City Council. The city administration will perform the functions of the representative body till the new elections. He told ITAR-TASS that he was forced to take this measure, since deputies turned down a proposal on the council's self-dissolution at their meeting on Wednesday.

Bryansk—First deputy chairman of the regional council Vladimir Lavrenov opposed the self-dissolution of the regional council, on which the regional administration insists.

He said in an interview with ITAR-TASS that representative bodies of power should function throughout the entire period of their reforming up to new elections. However, he added, the final decision can be taken only by the regional council's session which "will be called within a period determined by law".

Murmansk—Head of the Murmansk regional administration Yevgeniy Komarov said at a meeting with local journalists that staff members of the disbanded regional council would not remain jobless. It became known on Thursday that former deputy chairman of the regional council Valentin Luntsevich was appointed deputy head of the regional administration.

The greater part of staff members of the regional council were given jobs at the local administration. For this purpose, the governor made changes in the regional staff establishment.

Chairman of the Murmansk regional council Yuriy Yevdokimov spurned down help offered to find him a job.

Birobidzhan—The regional council voted down a proposal to dissolve itself at a session on Thursday. The council decided to work up to new elections of local councils. Speakers stressed that both arms of power in the autonomous region work hand-in-hand and do not have any serious contradictions.

Kabardinians Urge Boycott of Federal Elections

LD1410200493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1734 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The Executive Council of the Congress of the Kabardinian People has backed the resolution of the Kabardino-Balkarian parliament which qualifies the Russian president's decree No.1400 as anti-constitutional and invalid in Kabardino- Balkaria, and urges the Kabardinian people and parliament to boycott the elections of Russia's Federal Assembly until an election law is adopted by Russia's legitimate legislative body.

The Executive Committee also opposes the self-dissolvement of the Kabardino-Balkarian parliament and local soviets, and insists on simultaneous early elections of this republic's parliament and president.

"If the Kabardino-Balkarian parliament reverses its resolution condemning the Russian president's decree, the only correct way out of the situation will be to hold a state referendum," says this resolution.

Mayor Defends Moscow Militia's Actions During Crisis

PM1410133793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 6

[Letter from Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov under the "Official Mailbag" rubric: "From the Mayor of Moscow"]

[Text] I am extremely indignant at M. Lebedeva's article headlined "From Friday We Received Incomprehensible Orders From the Leadership" (IZVESTIYA 7 October), in which the work of the Moscow militia during the October mutiny was impugned.

The commentary's entire factual material is based on an anonymous statement by an unidentified member of the law-enforcement organs, who made a slanderous attempt to belittle and nullify the heroic work done by the capital's militia. The journalist was led on by this pseudohero, who, according to him, was the only one to remain loyal to his oath despite the alleged confusion and contradictory instructions coming from the higher command. This anonymous person, if he really existed, voiced a subjective viewpoint, which the journalist used

and generalized as his final assessment of law-enforcement organs' work. The author of the article in effect wrote an ill-disguised anonymous letter.

Being fully briefed on the work of the city internal affairs administration and the staff set up under it, I protest against this false—to put it mildly—depiction of the militia's role. City internal affairs administration organs shouldered the full burden of these alarming times and acted in a precise, efficient, prompt manner in accordance with the orders they were given, which were first designed to maintain tranquillity and resolve the problems peacefully. When White House supporters and inmates began armed provocations and actions, which then became an armed uprising, the Moscow militia was among the first to localize the source of the fighting and act in an orderly, organized fashion.

As mayor of the city and as someone who took a direct part in organizing the moves to rebuff the mutineers, I consider it my duty to categorically repudiate this article.

[Signed] Yuriy Luzhkov

Moscow Curfew May Be 'Decreased'

LD1410170993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1613 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaisky]

[Text] Moscow, October 14 (TASS)—The curfew in Moscow will, possibly, be decreased, considering the general stabilisation of the situation in Moscow, but no decision to this effect has yet been taken, Sergey Stepashin, Russia's first deputy minister of security, told ITAR-TASS.

As for lifting the state of emergency in Moscow earlier than planned, which some news media reported, the information is not true to the facts, Stepashin said.

There have been no instructions about shortening the curfew or the state of emergency, a spokesman for the provisional press centre of the office of the commandant of the state of emergency area in Moscow told ITAR-TASS. The state of emergency will possibly be lifted at 16.00 on October 18, the spokesman said.

At a recent press conference, Militia Colonel-General Aleksandr Kulikov, commandant of the state of emergency area in Moscow, also said that the situation had stabilised and there would be no need to extend the state of emergency beyond October 18.

Police Fire Warning Shots During Kurd Demonstration

LD1410185793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1808 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, 14 Oct(CRIME-PRESS)—Automatic weapons fire was heard this evening in central Moscow's Pushkin Square, a result of the actions to which the OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] had to resort to restore order in one of the capital's main thoroughfares.

A CRIME-PRESS correspondent was told at militia station No. 108 that a group of citizens of Kurdish nationality had disturbed public order near the entrance to the IZVESTIYA publishing complex. Men of the law and order bodies fired several warning shots and isolated the most active violators of order.

Budget Agreement Reportedly Reached With Tatarstan

MK1410134893 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 65, 14 Oct 93 (signed to press 13 Oct) p 1

[Unattributed report: "Tatarstan and Bashkortostan Start To Pay Taxes Toward State Budget"]

[Text] An informed source in the government of Tatarstan who wished to remain anonymous has reported that the finance ministries of the Russian Federation and Tatarstan have signed an agreement specifying the sums of payments toward the state budget through the end of 1993, thus making it possible "to defuse tensions in budget relations with Russia" because no intergovernmental agreement on budget relations between Moscow and Kazan has been signed yet. The source did not name the sum but said it will be a bit higher than what Tatarstan intended to pay

North Ossetian Congress To Discuss Ingush Refugees

MK1410114793 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 65, 14 Oct 93 (signed to press 13 Oct) p 2

[Natalya Gorodetskaya report based on materials of the INTERFAX and POSTFACTUM news agencies under the "Conflict" rubric: "Preparations for North Ossetian Peoples' Congress Underway. Republic's Leaders Oppose Ossetians' Living Side by Side With Ingush"]

[Text] Last weekend, a conference was held in Nazran at which Ingushetia's leaders discussed the situation in the republic, especially North Ossetia's opposition to the return of 64,000 Ingush refugees to Prigorodnyy rayon. The conference concluded that the Russian authorities, absorbed in their own problems, are too busy to pay attention to the situation in Ingushetia, and they will have to search for a way out of the current situation on their own. It is not yet known what course out of the maelstrom the Ingush leaders charted because the meeting was held behind closed doors.

However, on Monday the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet issued a statement saying that the Ingush Republic was preparing "the largest provocation"—it allegedly planned to launch combat operations against North Ossetia to commemorate the anniversary of the tragic events in Prigorodnyy rayon. The document points out that the Ingush side is intent on carrying out its threats against North Ossetia by accusing it of being unwilling to bring refugees back to where they had permanent residence and of being reluctant to comply with the Kislovodsk decisions on the settlement of the Ossetian- Ingush conflict.

Nonetheless, North Ossetia is still not inclined to bring the refugees back to Prigorodnyy rayon and insists on creating "enclaves" for the Ingush. In Vladikavkaz, preparations for a Congress of North Ossetia's Peoples are underway; the congress is expected to work out clear-cut phrasing regarding the impossibility of the Ossetians and Ingushi to live side by side. This will be one of the most important missions of the forum, which is scheduled to open on 29 October, North Ossetian parliamentarian Vyacheslav Lagkuyev, who is also chairman of the congress' organizing committee, said in Vladikavkaz. According to Lagkuyev, the congress' characteristic feature is that not only the public, but also the republic's authorities are involved in its preparation. The congress also plans to consider the situation in South Ossetia because, in the view of the congress' organizers, it "destabilizes the situation in North Ossetia to a certain extent."

It is expected that the congress will be attended by delegations from North Caucasus republics, the Confederation of the Caucasus Peoples, and Ossetian diasporas from foreign and the newly independent countries.

International Affairs

Government Protests Serbian Blockade of Danube

LD1510095993 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 0817 GMT 15 Oct 93

[Text] Belgrade—The information service of the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry reported on 14 October that Ukrainian Ambassador to Russia Volodymyr Krzhanitskyy had passed a note of protest from the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry to the embassy of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It is pointed out that as a result of unlawful actions by the Serbian public organizations of the White Rose and the New Byzantium, who had blocked the Danube river by amphibious means in the area of the 1,173rd kilometer, escorts of the Ukrainian Danube Shipping Company's vessels with export cargo on board are forced to stand idle in that area. The cargo's destinations are Austria, Hungary, and countries of the Middle East, Far East, and South East Asia. As a result, contractual obligations of Ukrainian Danube Shipping in respect of Ukrainian suppliers are under threat and seafaring and lighter-type ships are standing idle, awaiting the Danube-to-sea cargo.

The Ukrainian side regards these actions as a gross violation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's obligations in accordance with the 1948 Belgrade Convention. The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry expresses the hope that the Yugoslav Government will take every measure that is necessary for the unlawful activity of the organizations of the White Rose and the New Byzantium, blocking the Danube, to be brought to an immediate end. In the event that these unlawful actions should continue, it is pointed out in the note, Ukraine will have to appeal to the UN Security Council. Vadym Prymachenko, Ukraine's consul general in Belgrade, has visited the Yugoslav foreign minister and stated the Ukrainian government's official protest.

Talks Continue With Russia on Nuclear Disarmament

LD1510104993 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 0918 GMT 15 Oct 93

[Text] At Ukrainian-Russian talks between experts Kiev, 14 October: The press service of the Ukraine Defense Ministry has reported: "The possibility of technical assistance being rendered to the Russian side on the part of Ukraine in servicing their missile complexes was examined in the course of the latest meeting of experts from Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Issues of further work on guarantee supervision [harantiynyy nahlyad] of strategic nuclear forces in Ukraine were discussed." A protocol of intentions guaranteeing the safe operation and maintenance of nuclear weapons was signed in accordance with the outcome of the meeting.

In the course of the talks the sides exchanged opinions regarding the safe withdrawal of Ukrainian and Russian missile complexes from combat duty, while at the same time rendering the necessary mutual assistance. The sides expressed satisfaction that the postions of both groups of experts were well considered and based on the understanding of mutual problems and ways of resolving them.

The group of experts from Ukraine was headed by Lieutenant- General Kryzhko, head of the center of administrative management of strategic nuclear forces of the Ukraine Defense Ministry, and from the Russian Federation Lieutenant-General Nikitin, deputy commander in chief of the missile forces of strategic designation of Russia.

Housing Issue Aggravates Black Sea, Naval Forces Ties

LD1510003593 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1550 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Sevastopol—According to the press center of the Black Sea Fleet, on 13 October the marines of the Naval Forces of Ukraine took under their guard a recently built multistorey building in which eight apartments were allocated for the Naval Forces of Ukraine and 197 for the Black Sea Fleet. As a result, the Black Sea Fleet Military Council protested to the Naval Forces command, declaring that the Black Sea Fleet servicemen were not allowed to move into the apartments claimed by the servicemen of the Naval Forces of Ukraine. An UNIAN correspondent learned that due to the situation, Admiral Baltin, Black Sea Fleet commander, did not attend the meeting with Ukraine's Defense Minister, Colonel General Vitaliy Radetskyy, which was planned for 13 October at the Sevastopol state administration.

The press center of the Naval Forces of Ukraine reported the marines are guarding the building against theft of property. Throughout the second quarter of the current year Ukrainian seamen were only provided with 23 apartments in Sevastopol, out of the planned 45. Meanwhile, altogether more than 3,500 officers of the national naval forces in the city have no housing.

Party Demands Russia To Be Labeled 'Aggressor'

AU1410211893 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 13 Oct 93 p 3

[Text] The Ukrainian Conservative Republican Party (UKRP), headed by Ukraine's people's deputy S. Khmara published an appeal to the Conference of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Interparliamentary Assembly (Bucharest) in connection with the latest events in Georgia. The document reads, specifically: "The occupation of Abkhazia, which is an integral part of the Georgian Republic, by separatist forces assisted by citizens and military technology of the great northern neighbor and with direct participation of Russian Army subunits that were supposed to fulfill the disengagement function between the warring sides, proves beyond doubt that the policy aimed at reestablishing the old empire at any price has prevailed among Russia's highest power structures." The UKRP has proposed that "Russia be considered an aggressor" and that it be demanded that Russian troops be

immediately withdrawn from all former USSR republics and that corresponding political and economic sanctions be used against Russia.

Acting Prime Minister Meets With Iranian Ambassador

LD1410124993 Tehran IRNA in English 1157 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 14, IRNA—The acting prime minister of Ukraine, Yukhum Avyagilskg, in a meeting with Iranian ambassador to Kiev, Behzad Mazaheri, Wednesday voiced his country's willingness to expand diplomatic and economic relations with Iran.

Referring to potentials of the two countries, Avyagilskg expressed his government's eagerness to buy more oil from Iran.

Tehran-Kiev industrial, economic and political cooperations were also discussed in the meeting.

It was agreed that a Ukranian team of mines experts visit Iran.

National Affairs

Parliament Approves Ministerial Appointments

AU1410183493 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 8 Oct 93 p 2

[Decree issued by the Ukrainian Supreme Council on 5 October]

[Text] By Ukraine's Supreme Council decree of 5 October 1993, the following ministerial appointments were approved:

VASYLYSHYN, Andriy Volodymyrovych—Ukraine's minister of internal affairs;

ONOPENKO, Vasyl Vasylyovych—Ukraine's minister of justice;

PYATACHENKO, Hryhoriy Oleksandrovych—Ukraine's minister of finance;

Also approved were the following appointments:

HUBENKO, Valeriy Oleksandrovych—head of the State Committee for Questions of Defense of Ukraine's State Border;

KOLOS, Anatoliy Viktorovych—head of Ukraine's State Customs Committee;

MARCHUK, Yevhen Kyrylovych—head of Ukraine's Security Service.

President Reorganizes Administration, Cabinet

AU1410183893 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 8 Oct 93 p 2

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on Reorganizing the Structural Subdivisions of the Ukrainian Presidential Administration and of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers"; issued in Kiev on 6 Oct]

[Text] In connection with Ukrainian Presidential Edict No. 383 of 27 September 1993 "On the Leadership of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers," I decree as follows:

1. To create the following structures within the apparatus of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers:

The Economic Administration on the basis of the Ukrainian Presidential Administration Consultative and Analytis Center for Socioeconomic Issues and the Economic Department of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers;

The Administration for Questions of External Economic Ties on the basis of the Ukrainian Presidential Administration Consultative and Analytis Center for External Economic Issues and the Department for Ties With International Financial Organizations at Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers.

2. To create the Juridical Administration of the Ukrainian President and Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers on the basis of the Ukrainian Presidential Juridical Service and Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers Juridical Department.

3. To create, within the Ukrainian Presidential Service for Questions of Territories, a structural subdivision for ties with Ukraine's Supreme Council and local councils of people's deputies on the basis of the Department for Interaction with Ukraine's Supreme Council commissions and local bodies of executive power at Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers.

4. The secretary of the Ukrainian Presidential Administration and the minister of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers must resolve questions associated with the reorganization of the subdivisions listed in the given edict.

Ukrainian President L. Kravchuk

Kiev, 6 October 1993

Appoints Advisers

AU1410211593 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Text] The following appointments have been made by Ukrainian presidential edict:

KRAVCHENKO, Valeriy Oleksandrovych—Ukrainian presidential adviser for external economic issues;

MARKULOV, Ihor Romanovych—Ukrainian presidential adviser for issues of the market economy;

PODOLYEV, Ihor Valentynovych—Ukrainian presidential adviser for issues of credits and finance;

TKACHUK, Zenoviy Yuriyovych—Ukrainian presidential adviser for issues of the agro-industrial complex.

New Defense Minister Radetskyy Profiled

AU1410211293 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 13 Oct 93 p 2

[Oleksa Kurpas commentary: "The Minister Is Full of Determination"]

[Text] Vitaliy Radetskyy is the second defense minister in the history of our state and the first Russian-speaking one (even though he stresses the need to introduce the state language in the Army).

He graduated from a Kiev higher general military school. He is also a graduate of the Frunze Military Academy and of the Military Academy of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces. He is 49 years old, married, and has two sons.

Vitaliy Radetskyy has covered the path from platoon commander to commander of a military district. Before he accepted the ministerial post, Colonel General Radetskyy was commander of the Odessa Military District. The new minister is a strict person, and it is now possible to expect significant changes in his military department. According to Vitaliy Heorhiyovych, he has two main tasks: To raise the discipline and combat readiness in the Army and to enlist the services of top specialists at the Ministry of Defense. The new minister's military concept fully conforms to the official one. Even in the times of the USSR, Vitaliy Radetskyy advocated the idea of Ukraine's own army. As for the present Army, the minister believes that it must be made smaller, but more mobile. It is also essential to proceed to a contract principle of recruitment into it. Incidentally, Vitaliy Radetskyy did not approve the actions by his Russian counterpart Pavel Grachev during the events in Moscow [in October 1993]. Radetskyy has promised the deputies that the Army will not take a single step without the parliament's permission. Many political figures believe that Radetskyy is precisely the man the Ukrainian Army needs. Let us wait and see.

Ex-Defense Minister Morozov To Run for Parliament

LD1410180393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1425 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Nekrasova]

[Text] Lvov October 14 TASS—Former Ukrainian defence minister Konstantin Morozov has preliminarily agreed to run for the parliament at upcoming elections, scheduled for March 27, 1994, as a candidate of the Ukrainian Republican Party, local sources reported.

Republican Party Chairman, People's Deputy Mikhail Goryn who had already delivered his election program to Lvov's voters, has described the political situation in the republic as "tense", when "both ultra-left communists and ultra-right social-nationalists are holding up their heads".

The Ukrainian Republican Party which names itself a "party of political prisoners"—larger part out of its almost 20,000 members served time in jail for their political views—was second after Rukh [Ukrainian People's Movement for Perestroyka], the major opposition movement, to launch the election campaign for the future ukrainian legislature.

The campaign began in western Ukraine where the grassroot movement of the party is stronger, the sources said.

Drohobych Bans Pro-Communist Parties, Publications

LD1410193593 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1630 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] By a decision of the town council in the Ukrainian town of Drohobych the registration and activities have been banned of political parties and public associations that adhere to positions of Marxist-Leninist ideology. Printing and distribution of publications propagating pro-communist ideas and calling for the restoration of the USSR is also not being permitted. This refers in particular to the newspapers VILNA UKRAYINA, TOVARYSH, KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI, and PRAVDA UKRAINY. This list also includes our KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

Kiev Rukh Members Urges Ban on Pro-Communist Groups

LD1410195993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1734 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The Kiev section of the Ukrainian People's Rukh movement in its address to the president and the parliament speaker demands banning the activities of the anti-Ukraine and pro-Communist organizations. This address was released Thursday to the news media.

The document says that the developments in Moscow showed the whole world the criminal character of the Communist ideology but have taught nothing either to the Ukrainian president nor to the parliament. Rukh demands that the state concept of the country's security be adopted, borders with Russia enforced and that a battle be waged against penetration into Ukraine of illegal emissaries who propagate treasonous ideas.

The document suggests that the former Communist party nomenclature be banned from occupying key posts in power structures, that periodicals propagating anti-Ukrainian ideas be closed.

It is also planned to dissolve the Crimean parliament due to its illegal activities, namely, its creation of a parallel structure of state power bodies and of a legal system which contradicts the nation's laws.

Crimean Parliament Passes Law on Presidency

LD1410224093 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] On 14 October an addition to the law on elections to the Supreme Council of the Crimea was adopted at the session of the Supreme Council of the Crimea. Out of 153

deputies, 115 voted in favor of this decision. In compliance with the addition, representatives of the Crimean Tatars receive 14 mandates while Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks, and other nationalities receive one mandate each. On the same day, the law on the president of the Crimea Republic was passed. A citizen of this republic, at least 35 years old, may become president. The president will be elected for a term of four years. He will have no right to dissolve or suspend the activities of the Supreme Council. In case the Constitution and the laws of the Crimea Republic are violated, proceeding from the conclusion drawn by the constitutional court, the president can be removed from his post by the Supreme Council of the Crimea by two thirds of the deputy corps' votes.

Arrests Made in Theft of Cesium-Containing Device

AU1410161893 Ivano-Frankivsk HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 8 Oct 93 p 2

[Ihor Holynskyy report: "Cesium... in the Kitchen Garden"]

[Text] There are occasional thefts from the Broshnivskyy Timber Combine "Osmoloda." Nothing extraordinary about that: Nowadays, everything everywhere may be stolen. However, the administration was seriously alarmed after an emitter disappeared from the roof of the wood laminate [DSP] plant. The reason is that the instrument—a 55-kg container—comprised cesium-137.

An operational investigation group of the Rozhnyativskyy Rayon Police Department started searching for the container. We must pay tribute to Vasyl Fedorko, operational commissioner of the Criminal Investigation Department, and district inspector Myron Oleksyuk. The young police officers acted resourcefully and professionally: The next day, the thieves were found and the instrument was returned to the enterprise.

As has become known, three young local citizens carried out the theft as far back as at the beginning of August. They buried the lead container in the kitchen garden of 20-year-old B., a young man with rather a dubious reputation. There is evidence that he occasionally traded in nonferrous metals and intended to sell the emitter to guest clients from the Baltic region. By the time he was detained, B. had already come under investigation. A few weeks ago, while driving an automobile, he was involved in a hit-and-run accident. A cyclist who had been run over died in hospital. At present, there are two criminal cases outstanding against B.

The thieves will be punished. However, how could it happen that instruments with radionuclides are freely accessible to everybody? It must be added that the enterprise decided to enclose the cesium containers (there are about two dozen such containers at the "Osmoloda" plant) into metal jackets and weld them into place. It is like the saying: "A peasant needs thunder to cross himself and wonder."

Belarus

Kebich Urges Order, Unity in Face of Moscow Unrest

WS1410122593 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELARUSSIA in Russian 6 Oct 93 p 1

[Statement issued by Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich in Minsk on 4 October; under the "Chronicle" rubric]

[Text] Esteemed Fellow Countrymen!

My address has been prompted by the recent events in Moscow. On Saturday [2 October] and particularly on Sunday and Monday, the Council of Ministers received a great many calls and appeals from citizens. People are concerned for their lives and the fate of our Republic.

First of all, I would like to say in this respect that the government is working intensively and is in full control of the situation. The government in our Republic is stable. Our oblasts and regions are finishing their harvest.

We will see 1993 out with good results: This year's grain harvest is really record-like—33.4 centners per hectare. The gross grain yield is expected to be 8.7 million tonnes, and that of potatoes—10 million tonnes, which is much more than last year. The crop of sugar beets is also good. In August and September, the production of milk, meat, and other foodstuffs exceeded that of a year ago. All this was achieved due to the independent work of farmers who managed to harvest a reasonable crop even under the most difficult weather conditions and a shortage of fuel and energy resources.

On behalf of the government and myself, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to farmers for their labor, as well as to city dwellers and workers of industrial enterprises for their assistance in supporting the agrarian sector.

This year's natural disasters were a serious trial for our nation. A number of areas in Brest, Gomel, and Minsk Oblasts found themselves under water after heavy rains. The government adopted all measures for rendering assistance to people and organizations that fell victim to floods. Necessary funds were allotted from the budget to overcome the effects of this natural disaster. Not a single person will be left in peril.

Great efforts were exerted by the government and myself, as the chairman of the Council of Ministers, to strengthen the CIS. We have come close to the establishment of an economic union, and we are fully convinced that it is only through our unity that we can restore the broken economic ties, lead the economy out of crisis, and avoid a rise in unemployment.

I suppose that in this troubled period, each of us involved with politics must not think of his or her personal ambitions, but of how to maintain peace and accord in the community and achieve reasonable solutions through dialogue.

The government has always conducted and will continue to conduct a policy of friendship and good-neighborly relations with the great Russian nation. Our ties with Russia should not be subject to political oscillations. I would like to say that even in these dramatic days we are continuing to implement the signed intergovernmental agreements. Oil deliveries to our Republic from Russia are increasing. Good prospects for economic interaction along other lines have emerged. Given this fact, the tragic developments in Moscow evoke our compassion and concern. In no case must peaceful people suffer and innocent blood be spilled. Personalities come and go, while the great Russian nation remains.

We want to see Russia as a prospering, strong, close, and friendly country. We wish the Russian people peace and welfare with all our heart and soul.

I am convinced that Belarus' prosperity, statehood, and sovereignty depend on Russian stability.

The government will do everything to prevent the civil strife that has overwhelmed the CIS from crossing into our Republic. We will firmly support constitutional order and respect for the Supreme Soviet. We say a definite 'no' to all those who are trying to evoke confrontation and animosity in our society.

The Belarusian Government hopes that order and peace will be restored in Moscow immediately and expresses its support for the course of democratic reform and restructuring conducted by Russia's government.

I appeal to all government institutions, workers' collectives, political and social organizations, and citizens to maintain order and confidence. Let us remember that our strength lies in our unity, a unity of people of different nationalities, political views, and faiths.

I wish prosperity to our people. I am convinced that we will manage to endure this rough period and achieve well-being in Belarus.

[Dated] 4 October 1993, Minsk

Dailies View Politicians' Reaction to Moscow Events

WS1410103093

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reaction of Belararusian politicians, lawmakers, and party leaders to the Moscow events from the press from 5 to 7 October.

Minsk ZVYAZDA and NARODNAYA HAZETA published a number of reports on reaction by politicians either supporting Yeltsin's actions (the Belarusian National Front, the Social Democratic Assembly, the Peasant Party), denouncing his actions (the Belarusian People's Movement, the Party of Communists of Belarus), or taking a neutral stance (Deputies Association Belarus).

Minsk NARODNAYA HAZETA in Belarusian on 6 October carries a front-page declaration by the Belarusian Popular Front [BNF] opposition faction, which

reads in its entirety: "The Popular Front opposition at the Belarusian Supreme Soviet supports President Yeltsin's firm actions on liquidating the next fascist-communist mutiny in Moscow, initiated by extremists on 3 October. We express our compassion for the families and friends of innocent victims and blame communist and fascist murderers .

"The BNF opposition believes that felonious war and unrest mongers in the Russian Federation were preparing for the mutiny in Moscow along with communist, pro-communist, and pro-imperial organizations in Belarus. The opposition wants to draw public attention to the fact that there has been coordination among Belarusian and Russian Communists. The so-called Congress of Belarusian People has become a demonstration of this cooperation and is a preparation for mutiny. It was aimed at eliminating Belarus' national independence and restoring the totalitarian USSR.

"The Belarusian community has become a witness to national treason performed by a group of deputies representing the pro-communist majority in the Belarusian Supreme Soviet who joined a disgraceful scheme with organizer of the bloody mutiny Ruslan Khasbulatov and other red-and-brown forces, led by Zyuganov, Sterligov, and others. All this received favorable treatment on the part of certain structures and individuals in the Belarusian Government (G. Danilav, S. Haydukevich, V. Pawlaw, and others).

"We insist that the Belarusian Supreme Soviet emergency session be convened immediately.

"We demand that the Belarusian Council of Ministers take a number of urgent measures:

"—protect the Belarusian territory against infiltration of criminal groupings and individuals after the fascist-communist mutiny is suppressed in Russia.

"—establish passport and customs control on the Belarusian-Russian border and consider the issue of introducing visas in the nearest future.

"—ban the activity of communist and pro-imperial organizations in Belarus (the Party of Communists of Belarus, the Belarusian Communist Party, the CPSU, the Officers' Union, the Slav Assembly Belaya Rus).

"We address General Prosecutor V. Shaladonov with a demand to launch an investigation of these organizations' subversive activities and the degree of their involvement in the communist mutiny in Russia and the preparations for the latter.

"We find it necessary to pass a motion to the Supreme Soviet on stripping deputy powers from Deputies Genadz Kazlow, Mikalay Skarynin, Alyaksandr Lukashenko, Ivan Trusav, and Mikalay Hrinev who stood against Belarusian independence. We are demanding that the General Prosecutor's Office investigate their possible participation in preparing the communist mutiny in Russia and their activities aimed at liquidating Belarus's sovereignty and statehood, of which they have repeatedly spoken in public.

"We demand an immediate ban on disseminating Russian communist and fascist newspapers PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, DEN, and others, in Belarus.

"We consider it inadmissible that communist leaders from other countries—Burakiavicius, Shved, and others—stay in Belarus, while they are being accused of criminal activities on the territory of their states."

Minsk ZVYAZDA in Belarusian publishes a series of front-page reports in its 5, 6, and 7 October issues written by V. Zhdanko and V. Tsygankow carrying commentaries on Moscow events by Belarusian politicians.

The 5 October issue carries a 400-word report "Belarusian Politicians on the Moscow Events." Coordinator of the Deputies Association "Belarus" Genadz Kazlov, accused by the BNF of "standing against Belarusian independence" is "grieved" by the "bloodshed" in Russia and does not believe that the situation "will clarify in the near future," ZVYAZDA reports. In his opinion, the only way to resolve the critical situation is through simultaneous Supreme Soviet and presidential elections. He believes that all the functions of the Supreme Soviet and the president should be transferred to the Federation Council and a new elections law should be adopted. However, he wonders "who will adopt this law when there is no legislature."

Viktar Chykin, Party of Communists of Belarus secretary, says that "it is difficult to assess the Moscow events because the truth about these events is unknown." In Chykin's opinion, "dictatorship has been established in Russia" and President Yeltsin "is walking in the footsteps of Pinochet." He claims that neither side will be victorious in the conflict; "some third force will emerge" and "the situation of 1991 may be repeated, when the Soviet Union disintegrated, however this time Russia may disintegrate." Speaking of the situation in Belarus, Chykin says he sees no necessity in early parliamentary elections, but an extraordinary Supreme Soviet session should be convened and consider the issue of Stanislav Shushkevich's resignation, because the latter "supported the anti- constitutional coup in Russia."

Briefing reporters on the results of BNF faction emergency session, the organization's leader Zyanon Paznyak points out that "people under red flags and people with swastikas acted together in Moscow" and says that the events in Moscow are "God's vengeance for the Russian Supreme Soviet's mean policy toward Georgia, Moldova, Tajikistan, and other former Soviet republics." He believes that Belarus is "lucky" not to be part of that "terrible empire."

On 6 October, ZVYAZDA carries a 400-word report "Moscow Taught Us a Lesson on What Politics Should Not Be," which carries more statements by Belarusian politicians.

Mikola Shelyahovich, Belarusian People's Movement co-chairman points out that three people are responsible for "the worst possible resolution of the Moscow situation"—Yeltsin, Khasbulatov, and Rutskoy. In Shelyahovich's opinion "Yeltsin should reject his own victory," as "there was no victory," because "there are people who will never put up with the defeat." The People's Movement co-chairman proposes his own variant of ending the current political crisis "not only in Russia, but also in Belarus." He suggests that "some third force assume power for a transitional period." Shelyahovich opposes BNF's term "communist-fascist mutiny" saying that "ambitions of a group of politicians" made "a Russian kill a Russian" for a triumph of the principle "So I decided."

Belarusian Peasant Party Chairman Yawgen Lugin, speaking on behalf of his party, says that the Moscow events are a result of "a conflict between the old obsolete and the new progressive systems of life" and "a demonstration that the Soviets have never been genuine people's bodies." He believes that these events "will have a great impact on the development of public opinion and political processes in Belarus." Lugin voices his "bewilderment" at the fact that the activities of the Belarusian People's Congress and the Officers' Union, who "in fact, threatened our sovereignty" at their conferences in September were not countered by any official bodies. "Taking advantage of the occasion," Lugin announces that the Association of Democratic Forces Vyasna-94 (Spring-94) is being established. In his opinion, this will be a centrist political force, while the lack of such force was "one of the causes of the Moscow bloodshed."

Alyaksandr Dabravolski, chairman of the United Belarusian Democratic Party quotes a declaration adopted by the party's executive committee on 4 October, which reads that the Moscow events are a "natural continuation of communist terror traditions, that claimed millions of lives." The party "supports the course for democratic reforms epitomized by the Russian president and government" and believes that democratic elections will be "a decent resolution of the situation."

The same newspaper on 7 October carries a report "Yeltsin's Dramatic Victory Gives Belarus a Chance for Independence" presenting reactions by the People's Movement of Belarus in support of the Russian Supreme Soviet and the Belarusian Social Democratic Assembly, denouncing Russian Supreme Soviet's actions.

The People's Movement declaration, in particular, reads: "The fundamental law has been trampled on and the legal parliament that protected it was shelled with artillery fire. Disobedient newspapers and public organizations have been closed down and democracy violated. These methods were welcomed by the leaders of the so-called democratic opposition in the Belarusian Supreme Soviet and a campaign of discrediting the legal power and democratic freedoms in the Republic was unleashed."

In its turn, the Belarusian Social Democratic Assembly demands that the activities of the People's Movement be banned, because "a number of its organizations in fact, supported the red-and-brown forces in Russia." The Assembly underlines that the Belarusian Officers' Union is a component of the All-Union officers' Union led by S. Terekhov arrested for terrorism and urges an investigation of Belarusian Officers' Union participation in the "bloody Moscow events."

Germans Arrested for Filming 'Secret' Missile Base

LD1510091593 Berlin ADN in German 0845 GMT 15 Oct 93

[Text] Minsk (ADN)—The Belarus security authorities have detained five German citizens for suspected espionage. An official announcement made in the capital Minsk today says the persons concerned were caught using a video camera to film a secret missile base in the Grodno area. The authorities have started investigations into the case.

According to the announcement, the detained persons are employees of a German-Lithuanian joint venture that is building accommodation in the CIS republic for members of the army returning from Germany.

Deputy Kozlov Views Upcoming CIS Meeting

OW1410160693 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 22 Sep 93

[From the "Utro" program]

[Text] Gennadiy Kozlov, leader of the "Belarus" association of deputies, made a statement on the eve of meeting of CIS heads of states and governments. [Video shows Kozlov outdoors speaking to camera]

[Begin Kozlov recording] Good morning, people. Good morning, politicians. True, this morning is not very good. The clouds are cloudy and it is raining, but like everyone else, I naturally would like to hope for the best.

As far as we know, a meeting of CIS heads of states and governments is scheduled for tomorrow. In this connection, I would like to make a statement, an address to you, presidents, premiers, and chairmen of Supreme Soviets, and of course citizens first and foremost. Yesterday, we sent a statement, prepared by well known Belarus Republic political movements and groups and signed by many well known political figures and people, to all mass media. We proposed to make the first steps of the Belarus Republic, Russia, and Kazakhstan toward creating a confederation with a higher level of integration of our states. I think that people will heave a sigh of relief. In short, it seems to us that we simply have no other way open to us. We should not maintain the illusion that another session will take place, and another agreement will be signed. If there are no regulating functions behind it, if there are no coordinating and no plenipotentiary institutions responsible for overseeing the carrying out

[of the agreements], their fate will be similar to the fate of the (Viskuli) agreement. Let us be realists; the things that have been signed on paper in (Viskuli) is normal. After all, not only we deputies but all the citizens and people were promised that we would live in a single economic space, that we would have a single monetary system, a unity of financial and credit policy, and [a single) defense and strategic space. Politicians, where did all this go to? Where is it? If this is personal ambitions—well, let God judge you, and people too. We have made our choice and sent this address to all mass media.

We strongly call the leaders of states to approach what we have delineated in a conscious way, and make a decision. [end recording]

Moldova

Snegur, Sangeli Decide Not To Visit Moscow

LD1410181293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1428 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The visit to Moscow on October 15 by the Moldovan President Snegur and Prime Minister Sangeli when they intended to solve some economic problems with Russia's leadership, will not take place. Interfax has been informed by sources close to the Moldovan president that the postponement was caused by the Moldovan foreign minister's speech at the 48th session of the UN General Assembly which displeased the Russian authorities.

In his speech the Moldovan foreign minister voiced some complaints to Russia in terms of its stand towards Transdniester. He, for example, spoke out in favour of the Russian 14th Army's withdrawal from Transdniester.

The Moldovan leaders voiced serious discontent with the speech by Foreign Minister Tsiu, particularly in the light of the latest developments in Moscow, says the source. He forecasts that Tsiu's speech at the UN may be the reason for his resignation.

Gen. Lebed Charges Dniester Forces at Moscow Conflict

MK1410101893 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 65, 14 Oct 93 (signed to press 13 Oct) p 4

[Dmitriy Zhdannikov report under the "Neighbors" rubric: "Were There Dniester Region Men at the White House? According to General Lebed, Volunteers Were Dispatched Not Without the Knowledge of the Self-Proclaimed Republic's Authorities"]

[Text] According to an INTERFAX news agency report, Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander in chief of the 14th Russian Army deployed in the Dniester region, did not rule out the possibility that Dniester region fighters took part in the armed rebellion in Moscow on 3-4 October. He also stated that the fighters were dispatched to the Russian capital not without the knowledge of Tiraspol politicians and refuted rumors that his subordinates, servicemen of the 14th Army, took part in defending the White House. "As a result of the ongoing investigation (the general was obviously hinting at the investigation now being carried out by the Russian Security Ministry into the participation of "Dniester" battalion servicemen in the Moscow events), a couple of generals will be declared outside the law. There are also threatening signs that the entire Dniester Republic will be declared outside the law."

It is absolutely obvious that Moldova took the events in Moscow as a signal for a resolute offensive against its autonomous areas that had split off willfully. In particular, the country's President Mircea Snegur asked Boris Yeltsin in a letter for assistance in "neutralizing those forces that still harbor criminal schemes to plunge our countries into the gulf of civil war." Moldovan Prosecutor Dmitriy Postovan, in his appeal to Russian Federation General Prosecutor Aleksey Kazannik, voiced his readiness to take part in the investigation into the events in Moscow. The prosecutor also asserts that, according to his information, Dniester region fighters sent by the leaders of the self-proclaimed republic took part in the attack on Ostankino.

The position of Russian Army General Lebed—who earlier covertly supported the Dniester regime and was even a deputy of the Dniester Supreme Soviet and has now altered his attitude to the Dniester Moldovan Republic's parliament and the republic's statehood on the whole—may seem somewhat strange in the given situation. However, a change of heart had to happen some day and precisely as a reaction to the political shortsightedness of the Dniester Moldovan Republic's leaders. Indeed, as early as 1991 they hastened to support the notorious "putschists," and having thus burned their fingers, they decided to keep silent in 1993. Thus the break was virtually inevitable.

This is all the more so because relations between Russia and the Dniester region were backed by Russian Federation parliamentarians who went there "for moral support and consultations on economic questions" (and it now appears for much more far-reaching objectives). Thus the broker of sorts in relations between Tiraspol and Moscow was obliged to dissociate himself to some degree even from the title of Dniester Moldovan Republic deputy. At any rate, whether Lebed retains his general's rank depends exclusively on the Russian leaders.

As for Moldova's authorities, they would not like to pass up the real chance to solve in a new way the problem of the republic's territorial integrity. The Dniester region is trying to wiggle off the hook by making statements of readiness to help Moscow in tracking down participants in the rebellion. However, depression in the ranks of the self-proclaimed republic's leaders is apparent: one of the few props that shored up the Dniester region's statehood has been destroyed.

Resigns as Lawmaker

LD1410193393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1750 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Tiraspol October 14 TASS—Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Russian Army stationed in Moldova, resigned as lawmaker of the self-styled Dniester region of Moldova on Thursday.

He told the local parliament that a "wall of mistrust" had emerged between him and the legislature.

The conflict flared up after the Dniester security and interior ministers, Vadim Shevtsov and Yuriy Ovsyannikov, categorically rejected Lebed's accusations that they had sent arms and militants to defend the Russian parliament building in Moscow.

"Time will judge us", Lebed said and left the session of the parliament.

Parliament Adopts Law on Multiparty Elections

LD1410211093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1904 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] The Moldovan parliament adopted October 14 a multi-party election act. The whole country will be one constituency in which the electorate will vote for party lists. Only those parties that won at least four percent of the vote will be represented in the new parliament.

INTERFAX has reported that the new elections will be held February 27. The present parliament will stay until the election day and its presidium, until the first session of the new parliament.

A proposal was moved October 14 to cancel the mandates of about 20 Transdniestrian deputies who had not attended the parliament sessions for two years. This and some other issues were put off until next week.

Bendery Seen as 'Cocked Gun' Waiting To Go Off

PM1510090993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 93 First Edition pp 1, 2

[Svetlana Gamova report: "Bendery: State of Cocked Gun"]

[Text] Kishinev—Fall 1993 in Bendery was reminiscent of the winter of 1992, which preceded the armed conflict in the Dniester Region. Then too things began with picketing of the police and demands for it to be withdrawn beyond the city limits. In a situation where tension had reached fever pitch there were sufficient sparks to kindle the flames of war. One would not like to cast oneself in the role of a prophet of doom, but 18 months after the war the city, severed from the Left Bank by the Dnieper and therefore a bargaining chip between Chisinau and Tiraspol, again finds itself on the crest of political passions.

Whereas on the Right Bank the laws of Moldova are in operation and on the Left Bank only the laws adopted by the Dniester Region Supreme Soviet are in force, in Bendery, situated between the two, there are two structures of power. According to the agreement signed by the Russian and Moldovan presidents, the Moldovan police and the Dniester Region militia remain in the city. Here there are two general prosecutor's offices and two people's courts. True, there is only one jail, which is under Moldovan administration, but they have already built their own on the other bank of the Dniester, so that now they can divide prisoners too into "ours" and "theirs."

Initially the quota established on the basis of the agreement—not more than 100 persons in the operational investigations groups of each side—was observed. Then the police and the militia began to muster cadres, passing the 300-mark. Yet another clause of the agreement, and, moreover, an extremely important one, was violated: Persons who had taken part in military operations were not supposed to be included in law-enforcement organs. In Bendery, through which the line of fire once ran, it was this which became the impetus to the exacerbation of the situation.

At the end of September the Bendery City Soviet newspaper published a statement by the city's workers committee containing a demand that the agreement and the withdrawal of police be reviewed. "The Workers Committee notifies the Russian and Moldovan sides that all responsibility for the further escalation of the conflict lies with the Republic of Moldova. If this happens, the workers committee reserves the right to choose the means and methods of struggle with the bandit formations in police uniform."

In retaliation the commissar of police, speaking on Moldovan national television, threatened to take appropriate and proportionate measures if the pressure on the officers of his department is not halted. "If there is any withdrawing to be done, it should be by both sides," he says. He is seconded by the Moldovan prosecutor, who has registered a protest with the workers committee and the city authorities.

"There will be no war here," Bendery's Military Commandant Ye. Khromov remarks, "since the people do not want to go to war. But all the same, there is no rapprochement in the city either. Nor do I think that there will be any in the long term. It is alarming."

"The whole point," the commendant says, attempting to analyze the situation, "is that the existing structure of administration no longer corresponds to the altered circumstances. Back then, in the summer of 1992, the main thing was to do everything to prevent a repetition of the conflict. Therefore we did not ponder the long-term future too deeply. Undoubtedly credit is due to the peacekeeping forces for stopping the war. But today, more than one year later, I think that such a powerful unit of peacekeeping forces here is not justified. True, if they are withdrawn altogether, there could be a repeat of the confrontation. All the passions in Bendery stem from the fact that there is no answer to the question: And what will happen in future? The solution, I think, lies in the decisions of the foreign ministries of the states whose signatures are on the agreement."

The problem is that operational staff, such as the militia and the police, who are supposed to handle only criminal cases, are in the course of time becoming increasingly politicized. In the opinion of A. Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, the very principle of the selection of cadres—

according to the level of patriotism of both the police and the militia—furthers extremism.

Police Commissar V. Prudnikov described the prevailing situation in the city curtly—mayhem.

"It will continue so long as the peacekeeping forces do not take over the patrolling of the city," the commissar remarked. "Right now this job is done by the militia only. As for the peacekeeping forces, if they leave the conflict will flare up right away."

The conditions in which policemen have to work here can be called extreme. It is not easy for those who have been seconded here, and still worse for those who live in the city.

N. Muntyan, chief of the police duty unit, has a family in Bendery—three children. He has people to feel concerned about, and there is cause for concern. The background against which he has to work, in N. Muntyan's words, is that of ever more frequent telephone threats.

A recent statement by the workers committee called him a murderer. He speaks of this more in sorrow than in anger. Loudly accusing the People's Front of Moldova of having unleashed the war, he has picked up, as happens, quite a few enemies, and has been classed as belonging to the other side by his own people. But the "other side" does not class him as one of "theirs" either. N. Muntyan does not know how to explain it to either side, both of which take extreme positions and accept only two colors—black and white.

In the police there are stories of officers being beaten up. Moreover, such incidents also occur in the militia. Mutual recriminations are heard on both sides. The question of how they might end can with full justification be addressed to the politicians dragging out the solution of the question of the status of the Dniester Region. But when, sooner or later, it is discussed, the problem of Bendery—a city situated on the right bank of the Dniester but linking its fate with the left—will arise.

The status of a free city on the lines of Italy's Trieste has already been suggested, at least by journalists. But this option as a way out of the deadlock will most likely satisfy neither Chisinau, nor Tiraspol, nor Bendery itself.

To my question N. Kharchenko, deputy chairman of the Bendery City Soviet, remarked that there could be no question of this. In this situation the trolleybus link between Bendery and Tiraspol acquires the contours of a political symbol, rather than an economic necessity.

Time will show what option politicians will prefer. Moreover, the overall atmosphere has been compounded by the fear of losing Russia's support, following the widely publicized news story of the participation of volunteers from the Dniester Region in the defense of the White House. Both the city soviet and the workers committee stated with one voice that not one person had left Bendery for Moscow. This was reiterated somewhat later at a session of regional deputies meeting in Tiraspol.

The freezing of Dniester region bank accounts by Russia threatens Bendery with economic paralysis, and the accusations that are being heard in the Moldovan mass media that the region supported the red-brown revolt are dragging the city into a pit of fear. Bendery fears a repetition of the events of 1992.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Meets With Executive Power Representatives

LD1410181993 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1500 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Nursultan Nazarbayev today met with members of the government and heads of the republican departments and administrations. At issue was the lack of agreement between the ministries and oblast administrations, especially when it comes to new appointments. There were cases when ministers made appointments in the localities without consulting local administrations and in violation of the existing legislature. The head of the republic urged all the executive power bodies to integrate their activities.

Nazarbayev Proposes Reform of Local Government

PM1410131793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 93 First Edition p 1

[Vladimir Ardayev report from the "From Our Correspondents and News Agencies" roundup: "All Power to the Akims!"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—Soviets on the lowest rung—at village, hamlet, and municipal district level—will cease to exist in Kazakhstan when their mandates expire. All power in these areas will be concentrated in the hands of one official—the akim, appointed by the head of the superior administration.

As for the supreme organ of legislative power, it will be a mobile and compact professional parliament with a membership half that of the existing body. This was stated in N. Nazarbayev's report at the Kazakhstan Supreme Soviet session which has now opened.

Nazarbayev Concerned About Tribal Differences

AU1410211393 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "A Real Threat"]

[Text] [President of Kazakhstan] N. Nazarbayev believes that a real threat to the interethnic accord has emerged in Kazakhstan. His article published by the republican press points out that dangerous trends toward a national split have lately appeared in Kazakhstan's society. In the president's opinion, this is due to the fact that the relative independence of the regions is being taken advantage of by the local elite to establish tribal ideology and clan-related protectionism. This is a direct road to internal national disintegration and cessation of democratic reforms. It is only possible to avoid interethnic conflict, stressed the leader of Kazakhstan, by ensuring the equality of all the people in the country with the integrating role of the Kazakh nation.

Iranian Official on Importance of Almaty Cooperation

LD1310223193 Tehran IRNA in English 2150 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 13, IRNA—Cooperation between Iran and Kazakhstan, the two large countries of the region, would strengthen stability and tranquility in the area, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs, Mahmud Va'ezi told Kazakh Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko in Almaty today.

Va'ezi who is in the Kazakh capital to make preparation for President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's scheduled visit, outlined the importance of Iran's regional policy, and the two countries' cooperation at the 10-nation Economic Cooperation Organisation and (ECO) the Caspian Sea Cooperation Organization.

Tereshchenko replied that the Kazakhstan Government was eagerly looking forward to Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit and attaches prime importance to it.

He said Almaty was ready to expand the "friendly" ties with Iran in all fields and to set up a joint economic commission in this regard.

During their meeting the two officials discussed trade, cultural and economic ties including cooperation in the banking field.

Parliament Ratifies CIS Ruble Zone Agreement

LD1510094793 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0530 GMT 15 Oct 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The parliament of Kazakhstan has ratified the agreement of six CIS countries to form a unified ruble zone, signed in Moscow in September. Also ratified were documents on combining the monetary systems of Kazakhstan and Russia.

Tajikistan

'Militants' Establish Stronghold Near Afghan Border

LD1310120493 Moscow Radio Rossii in Russian 0730 GMT 12 Oct 93

[From the "Radio Slavyanka" program]

[Text] The Tajik opposition group that had crossed into Tajik territory from neighboring Afghanistan a few days ago has intensified its military activities. Nearly 300 people, among them military instructors from Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, have established their stronghold in the difficult to access region near the border. An ultimatum was sent to the militants urging them to lay down their arms and return to Afghanistan. Otherwise, they will be eliminated with the help of air attacks, the ultimatum states.

Shell Russian Border Force

LD1310142993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1100 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] On Tuesday evening an opposition grouping, which came from Afghanistan to the Tajik territory on October 2 and reinforced an almost impassable mountainous region 12 kilometers from the state border, again subjected the 12th outpost of the Moscow frontier detachment to shelling after launching 5 rocket projectiles against the post. The Tajikistan-based headquarters of the Russian frontier forces told Interfax that Russian frontier guards opened artillery counterfire and suppressed the adversary's firing points.

The headquarters also reported that at 06:30 [0330 GMT] on Wednesday an outpost of one of the 201st Division detachments, which have been assigned to reinforce the border, came under fire in the region of the same 12th post. One of the servicemen received a tangent wound. The source underlined that fire was conducted from the contiguous territory.

As frontier guards assert, the shelling of the 12th frontier post served as a cover so that a group of 3 people could cross the border. During the operation one of the intruders was killed, another one detained and the search for the third one is underway.

In his interview with Interfax first deputy commander of Russia's frontier forces Anatoliy Parakhin emphasized that the situation on the border "remains tense and there are no improvements." Moreover, he believes that "the situation is being forced with every passing day."

Russian Commander: Opposition Plans Combat Operations

LD1310205293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1715 GMT 13 Oct 93

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] Tajik opposition militants have not abandoned their plans to over throw the Tajik leaders and continue their struggle at various points along the Tajik-Afghan border, First Deputy Commander of the Russian Border Troops, Major-General Anatoliy Parakhin told Interfax in an exclusive interview.

He believes the armed opposition is likely to accumulate forces in Afghanistan and Tajikistan over the winter. "According to our sources, the militants are going to create bases and start active combat operations next spring," he said.

The introduction of the CIS joint peace-keeping forces has the sole purpose of ensuring stability in Tajikistan, where many militants have gathered, said Parakhin. He noted, however, that if the situation on the border deteriorated, the coalition forces would be ready to help along any section of the Tajik-Afghan border.

Parakhin said that the situation on the border was still complicated. Militants are being transferred to Gornyy Badakhshan from neighboring Afghanistan, he said. He believes at the same time that the reinforcement of the Badakhshan section of the Tajik-Afghan border was highly problematic. "Kazakhstan has assured me that it will send a peace-keeping regiment to Badakhshan," said Parakhin. "However, we have neither a place to accommodate them, nor food to provide them with," he added. The introduction of peace-keeping forces would entail many material and technical problems, he continued. He could not say how much time it will take to perform this operation.

To quote Parakhin, the Russian border troops are concerned about the current situation, particularly in the Pyanj section. He said he had information that a group of up to 300 militants were concentrating in the vicinity of the 12th and 13th posts of the Pyanj Border-Guard Detachment in order to carry out a breakthrough to Tajikistan. Along other sections of the border (Pyanj, Moscow and Ishkashim) the invasion of large groups of militants is hardly possible, he said.

"In general, one cannot talk about massive border violations," said Parakhin. The main obstacle, he said, is the mountains and the border guards' contingents even though they are not numerous.

He assured that the Russian border guards controlled the Tajik- Afghan border, including the Badakhshan section.

'Militants' Move From Afghanistan to Gornyy

LD1310212793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1717 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tajik militants are being actively transferred from Afghanistan to the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region, First Deputy Commander of the Russian Border Troops Major-General Anatoliy Parakhin told INTERFAX. "The militants are building bases so as to start active combat operations next spring," he said. To quote Parakhin, the armed Tajik opposition has not abandoned the plans to seize power and overthrow the Tajik leaders.

He also noted that the reinforcement of the Badakhshan section of the Tajik-Afghan border was problematic because additional units could not be properly accommodated.

He said that the introduction of the CIS's joint peace-keeping forces would entail many material and technical problems. He said that the sole task of the coalition forces is to ensure stability in Tajikistan. He noted, however, that if the situation on the border deteriorated the coalition forces would be ready to help the border guards along any section of the Tajik-Afghan border.

Russian Guards Search for Opposition Fighters

LD1410100293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Russian border troops on the Tajik-Afghan border this morning started the operation of searching the locality in the area of the 12th border post of Moscow border detachment.

Interfax was told at the headquarters of the Group of Russian Border Forces in Dushanbe that taking part in the operation are units of the 201st Russian Division and also of the National Security Committee and Ministry of Defense of Tajikistan.

At the beginning of October, as you know, in inaccessible mountain areas near the 12th border post, fighters of the Tajik opposition consolidated themselves after having infiltrated the territory of Tajikistan from Afghanistan.

10 'Trespassers' Killed

LD1410143293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Oct 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A motorized rifle division and Russian border guards are continuing operations to clear the mountainous terrain in the south of the former Kulyab oblast, which is difficult of access, of the armed opposition groups that have infiltrated it. During the fighting 10 of the trespassers were killed. There are no casualties or injured among the defenders of the border.

As reported at the headquarters of the Russian border guards in Tajikistan, last night and today there have been no incidents on any parts of the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border. The situation is being monitored by the border troops of Russia and subunits of the National Security Committee of Tajikistan. [video shows military in barren terrain]

Situation on Afghan Border 'Difficult'

LD1510080393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0734 GMT 15 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Chernov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—The situation at the Tajik-Afghan border is difficult, but there was no violations to go on record last night, Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid Alimov told ITAR- TASS over the telephone on Friday.

The militants seem to have changed their tactics lately: they are trying to infiltrate Tajikistan from the territory of neighbouring Afghanistan in small groups and in various directions, Alimov said.

According to him, the Russian border guards, the Committee for National Security, the Tajik Interior Ministry, the department of defending the Tajik border and, if necessary, servicemen of the 201st Division of the Russian Army have combined their efforts to block most of these attempts effectively.

Currently, a military operation is underway in the southern border regions of the Kulyab region aimed to encircle and neutralize a group of Tajik anti-government militants and to reinforce this strip of the border.

Although the Tajik opposition militants strive to prevent the voluntary return of the Tajik refugees from Afghanistan, the process is still going on, Alimov said.

The refugees are given finacial aid and supplied with all things necessary, he concluded.

Armenia

Nagorno-Karabakh Region Reportedly Peaceful

LD1410114193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1107 GMT 14 Oct 93

[ARMENPRESS correspondent Loris Gukasyan for TASS]

[Text] Yerevan, 14 October—According to information received by ARMENPRESS from the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's press and information department, peace returned to the fronts on Thursday morning after the fighting that broke out two days ago.

As has already been reported, there was fighting from 10-12 October in the Gadrut sector, the southern part of the Karabakh- Azerbaijani frontline, after the truce was broken there. The same source disclosed that by noon on Thursday, a relative lull had also been restored in this area.

CSCE Representative: Karabakh Meetings 'Fruitful'

NC1410164293 Yerevan SNARK in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Stepanakert, October 14 (SNARK)—Matias Mosberg, a representative of the CSCE chairman, considers the Karabakh meetings as fruitful.

Recently there was mentioned that the mission headed by Mosberg came to Stepanakert on October 12 to get acquainted the situation in the zone of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

Matias Mosberg told SNARK that the mission visited some settlements where they saw how difficult the life of the Karabakh population is. The mission hopes that the Karabakh population should follow the idea of peaceful regulation of the conflict.

Yesterday the Karabakh mission left for Baku.

Karabakh Defense Officials Leave for Paris

NC1410184093 Yerevan SNARK in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Stepanakert, October 14 (SNARK)—Robert Kocharyan, a chairman of the Karabakh Defense Department, left for Paris following the invitation of the International Diplomatic Academy.

The Karabakh Foreign Department told SNARK that Robert Kocharyan is expected to meet with the members of the academy, inform them of the military and political situation existing in Karabakh, introduce the Karabakh leadership position on peaceful regulation of the Karabakh problem.

Robert Kocharyan is accompanied by Zhirair Pogosyan, deputy chairman of the Karabakh government.

Parliament Decides To Remain in Ruble Zone

NC1410165893 Yerevan SNARK in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, October 14 (SNARK)—As a result of the two-day discussions the Armenian parliament didn't accept the decision on introducing national currency though a lot of deputies are agree to the idea.

According to the news received from the deputy circles, the Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and the Armenian Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan are against the national currency introduction.

Ter-Petrosyan To Go to Moscow for Ruble Talks

NC1410173393 Yerevan SNARK in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, October 14 (SNARK)—During the discussion on ratification [of] the agreements on the ruble zone and the unification [of] Russian and Armenian money systems the Armenian president Levon Ter-Petrosyan said that he is going to leave for Moscow where on October 18 the problems connected with supplying Armenian with new Russian rubles will be discussed.

Babken Ararktsyan, the chairman of the Armenian parliament, told to the deputies that he is sure the Armenian president and the Armenian prime minister will come back with the definitive decision.

Economy Minister on Rising Inflation Rate

NC1410162593 Yerevan SNARK in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Yerevan, October 14 (SNARK)—The Armenian economy minister Armen Yegiazaryan announced that during last days the inflation in Armenia has acquired a lot of reserves and the income indexation has come to nothing.

Speaking yesterday to the Armenian TV he mentioned that "one of the reasons of the prices increase is in eligible input of a lot of 1961-1992 Soviet roubles into the republic. [no end quote as received]

The minister told that from November 1 all the trade operations will be done in old Soviet rubles and through slot-machines.

Speaking on the measures on overcoming crisis Armen Yegiazaryan mentioned that 'it is planned in 1994 to undertake decisive measures to decrease expenditures, budget deficit, cash operations'.

Azerbaijan

President Aliyev on Present Situation, Joining CIS

MK1410121293 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Oct 93 pp 1, 3

[Interview with President Geydar Aliyev by Aydyn Mekhtiyev under the "At First Hand" rubric: "Geydar

Aliyev: 'Joining the CIS Is in the Country's Interests.' The President of Azerbaijan Is Against Creating Artificial Obstacles in Relations With Neighbors"]

[Text] [Mekhtiyev] Mr. Aliyev, first of all, allow me to congratulate you on your election to the post of president of the Azerbaijan Republic. Could you speak about the reasons for holding early presidential elections after Elchibey's election half a year ago?

[Aliyev] When on 17 June this year former President Abulfaz Elchibey left his work place, in fact ending the execution of his presidential duties, he himself transferred the powers of the head of state to the parliamentary chairman. On the following day the Milli Mejlis confirmed the transfer of these powers. Ways to overcome the crisis were sought. We tried to convince Elchibey of the need to return to his duties, but those efforts brought no result. Delegations of representatives from the intelligentsia went to the village of Kalaki where Elchibey took refuge behind several cordons of security forces, and appeals were sent there in writing, but all was in vain. Therefore we, proceeding from the principles universally recognized in world practice, made a decision to hold a republic-wide referendum on confidence in the president. The results of the poll are known to you—97.5 percent of the population expressed distrust in Elchibey. As you see, we made this move even though the republic's constitution contains provisions giving grounds for the immediate removal of the president from office for violating the country's Fundamental Law. After the referendum results were announced, a decision was made to hold early presidential elections. All conditions were created for all political forces to participate in the election campaign and to nominate their candidates. Several times I personally appealed from the parliamentary rostrum to the People's Front and its leader—Elchibey himself—to field his candidacy. Yet Elchibey did not do that. On the other hand, representatives of two other political movements declared their wish to run for the post of head of state. Many work collectives and other public organizations also nominated myself as a candidate.

[Mekhtiyev] Mr. President, a whole number of opposition movements, and in particular the People's Front, announced a tactic to passively boycott the elections and proclaimed their results invalid in advance. How do you assess this fact?

[Aliyev] I believe that the presidential elections were held under exclusively democratic circumstances. During the election campaign all conditions were provided to ensure freedom of expression. Observers from 35 countries and also from such an authoritative organization as the CSCE monitored the conduct of the elections on 3 October as well as the 29 August referendum. Heads of foreign missions also acted as observers. The fact that the People's Front, with all of the above conditions, calls the elections illegitimate is very characteristic. The People's Front has been so spoiled by the fact that its members could violate laws and indulge in arbitrariness that it continues to think that it is the opinion of only this organization that is the ultimate truth. However, if the People's Front believes that it has decisive influence on public opinion, why then did more than 98 percent of the electorate vote for the new president?!

[Mekhtiyev] Recently the mass media reported an attempt on your life. Could you elaborate on that in more detail?

[Aliyev] My observations over the recent period—and this is confirmed by public opinion studies—show that some extremist political forces, including the People's Front, are not happy with a stable sociopolitical situation in Azerbaijan. In the past, too, they wanted to destabilize the situation, but the present normalization of the situation in Azerbaijan is obviously not to their liking. This is why they are resorting to forceful methods. It was not the first time that they have used them in their practice. As you probably remember, when I worked in Nakhichevan, last October they tried to overthrow the legally elected power bodies of the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic by armed force. For that purpose they mobilized more than 300 People's Front members armed with automatic rifles and other weapons, but they failed to carry out their plans because voters came out to defend the parliament, and though they were not armed, their number exceeded 15,000. Members of the People's Front threatened me with acts of terror. There were reports about acts of terrorism being prepared against me. All these reports were checked. This latest incident is, of course, outrageous and it well characterizes the People's Front ideologues. It appears that they hired a man—a Turkish citizen, a member of the Gray Wolves organization—and they brought him to Nakhichevan and trained him for more than a month, including target practice and training sessions, and provided him with a sniper's rifle with optical sights and with grenades. They studied the route of my movements and the time of my going to work and back. As is apparent from the testimony of the suspects, attempts to use a grenade to blow up the car in which I was traveling were not ruled out. I had no doubt that the People's Front, which emerged in its time as a popular movement and which, incidentally, was trusted by many in Azerbaijan and on which many pinned their hopes, has turned into a terrorist organization because no political party or political organization in the world usually has armed units while the People's Front in recent years has formed many armed groups. though I do not know where the funds to support them are coming from. This puts the People's Front outside the framework of all humane principles and outside the scope of the law and the constitution.

[Mekhtiyev] Is there any intention in light of this to suspend the activity of the People's Front?

[Aliyev] Proposals on the need to terminate the Front's activity have been made, including from parliamentary deputies at recent sessions after the criminal actions by some members of the People's Front came to light. However, I did not agree with this approach and did not even allow this question to be discussed, proceeding

from the principles of democracy. At the same time the People's Front can no longer be called "people's" as it does not represent the people.

[Mekhtiyev] What could you say in connection with the fact that a number of the republic's former leaders, including ex-Premier Panakh Guseynov, former State Secretary Ali Kerimov, and former People's Front Chairman Faradzh Guliyev, are on the wanted list of the law enforcement bodies?

[Aliyev] Because they are hiding, it can be concluded that they are aware of their guilt and understand that they have committed a crime. If a person has not violated any rules, why then should he hide his whereabouts? I think that the law enforcement bodies will find them and apply the requisite measures to them in accordance with the law.

[Mekhtiyev] Recently Azerbaijan has become a full-fledged member of the Commonwealth of Independent States. You, as the initiator of its entry into the CIS, were accused by some of an attempt to return Azerbaijan into the orbit of Russia's influence....

[Aliyev] These allegations are groundless and biased. Such statements are aimed to produce an impact on public opinion. I think that this is already impossible since before joining the CIS, we repeatedly discussed this question at parliamentary sessions—incidentally, all Milli Mejlis sessions are broadcast on television and the population can directly oversee the decisionmaking process. Based on public opinion research results, we have found out that an overwhelming majority of the population supports this move. The opinion of opposition leaders does not express the people's aspirations. They themselves understand that this act has been adopted proceeding from Azerbaijan's supreme interests. Joining the CIS in no way means that Azerbaijan is falling under Russia's influence. I have no doubt, however, that Azerbaijan had to restore normal relations with such a large country as Russia.

[Mekhtiyev] Mr. President, in the recent period there has been some tension in the relations between Azerbaijan and the countries of Central Asia. Problems in relations between Baku and the Central Asian capitals emerged after last June when Mr. Elchibey publicly criticized the leadership of the Moslem countries of the former USSR....

[Aliyev] That position of the former president was in full contradiction with the national interests and historical traditions of the good-neighborly relations between our peoples and did not respond to Azerbaijan's economic interests. Azerbaijan is linked with the regions of Central Asia and Kazakhstan by centuries-old relations. Many Azeris live on the territory of these states, and it is irrational to create artificial barriers in the relations with these states. We have fully moved away from this line. Moreover, I condemn this policy of the former leadership. At present we have reached agreement with all the leaders of the states in the Central Asian region and Kazakhstan on concluding direct treaties and establishing close ties. A package of agreements has been prepared with Uzbekistan and one is pending with Kazakhstan. I have direct contacts with the presidents of all of these republics and I have already met with them at the previous CIS session and I think that our relations with these states will develop on all fronts. This will benefit the Azeri people.

[Mekhtiyev] On 8 October you held talks in the Kremlin with the leaders of Russia, Georgia, and Armenia. One of the questions discussed at that meeting was the issue of unblocking transportation routes in the Transcaucasian region. Does the new leadership of Azerbaijan agree with the demand to lift the ban on railway freight transit though Azerbaijan to Armenia?

[Aliyev] This demand cannot be considered outside the context of Resolutions 822 and 853 of the UN Security Council which call for an immediate withdrawal of Armenian troops from the occupied territories. Neither is it possible to resolve the transportation issue without addressing the entire complex of questions related to the aggression by Armenian armed groups against Azerbaijan. After all, outside the former Nagorno-Karabakh Oblast a large territory of the Azerbaijan Republic has been captured and hundreds of thousands of people have become refugees. Without resolving these questions, it is not only not serious to demand the lifting of sanctions but can even be seen as an element of aggression against Azerbaijan.

[Mekhtiyev] Do you allow the possibility of a direct dialogue between Baku and Khankendi? The Armenian leadership believes that without such a dialogue the solution of the Karabakh question is impossible.....

[Aliyev] In the present situation we continue to search for ways to overcome the crisis. We intend to use all avenues to restore the republic's territorial integrity and liberate the territories occupied by Armenian troops. If the dialogue which you have mentioned can be useful, we shall not avoid it.

[Mekhtiyev] Mr. President, my last question is connected with the problem of oil production. Recently the signing of a contract between the republic's government and a consortium of Western companies on the joint development of oil deposits has been postponed. This caused concern among the Western partners. How do you assess this problem?

[Aliyev] This concern is groundless because we merely suspended work on an earlier prepared project in order to better study this question. We received information that some provisions of the project seriously infringed Azerbaijan's national interests. After all, oil is one of the main assets in the republic and this wealth must be disposed of very carefully, with consideration given to the present and future interests of the Azeri people. During this period we conducted extensive work and established that the implementation of the new project will bring Azerbaijan $17 billion more in profits that the suspended project. This is the economic effect and the

practical result of our actions. I think that we shall continue cooperation with foreign partners but on a sound and honest basis.

Government To Continue Consulting With CSCE Group

NC1410200293 Baku TURAN in English 1342 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Baku October 14 (TURAN)—The circles, close to the leader of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MFA] of Azerbaijan reported, that the Azeri leadership intends to continue consultations with the CSCE Minsk group. Baku hopes that the proposals of the Azeri party will be taken into consideration in the last variant of the schedule of urgent measures on establishing peace in the region.

The MFA rejected the information that Baku has to give its official answer on the given variant of the schedule today. According to the same source, a working meeting of Minsk group on preparations to the conference on regulation of the Armenian-Azeri conflict is to take place in Rome October 18.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Forms HQ To Stabilize Situation in West

AU1410124093 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 8 Oct 93 p 1

["Order of the Georgian Head of State on the Creation of a Temporary Regional Coordinating Headquarters To Stabilize the Political and Socioeconomic Situation That Has Taken Shape in Western Georgia and Implement the Emergency Regime" issued in Tbilisi; date not given]

[Text] 1. To create a temporary regional coordinating headquarters in order to implement the emergency regime that has been declared in the country and stabilize the political and socioeconomic situation that has taken shape in western Georgia.

The coordination of questions connected with ensuring the evacuation of refugees from Abkhazia is to be considered as the primary task of the headquarters.

2. To entrust **Avtandil Margiani**, Republic of Georgia deputy prime minister, member of the Defense and National Security Council, with taking charge of the headquarters.

3. The following are to be included in the headquarters:

G. Lanchava, Republic of Georgia deputy minister of internal affairs;

V. Kutateladze, deputy head of the Republic of Georgia Information and Intelligence Service;

R. Qipiani, Republic of Georgia deputy procurator;

G. Vashakidze, Republic of Georgia deputy defense minister;

V. Vashakidze, chairman of the Republic of Georgia Committee for Refugees and Resettlement;

I. Vasadze, Republic of Georgia first deputy minister of agriculture and the food industry;

Z. Erkvania, chief state adviser in the apparatus of the Georgian head of state;

T. Khurtsidze, Republic of Georgia first deputy minister of trade and supply;

R. Vazhakidze, head of the Republic of Georgia Railway Transport Department;

G. Gelenidze, vice president of the Republic of Georgia bread products corporation;

G. Gogichaishvili, head of the Republic of Georgia Automobile Transport Department;

V. Salibegashvili, Republic of Georgia deputy minister of communications;

J. Kakhiani, deputy head of the Republic of Georgia Air Transport Department;

M. Chumburidze, first deputy chairman of the gamgeoba [administrative board] of the Tsekavshiri consumer cooperative;

V. Khukhuneishvili, member of the Republic of Georgia Parliament;

B. Lobzhanidze, member of the Republic of Georgia Parliament;

V. Kiknadze, deputy chairman of the Republic of Georgia "Saknaftobprodukti" [Georgian petroleum products] concern;

L. Devdariani, permanent representative of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia in the Republic of Georgia Cabinet of Ministers;

Z. Chqonia, deputy head of the Republic of Georgia Rescue Corps;

A. Burjanidze, chairman of the coordinating headquarters of non- political public organizations;

D. Kotetishvili, head of the Republic of Georgia Cabinet of Ministers Department of Transport and Communications;

S. Tqebuchava, head of the Republic of Georgia Cabinet of Ministers press center.

4. The Republic of Georgia Cabinet of Ministers is to provide the coordinating headquarters with the appropriate financial means and equipment, one coordinator and two technical workers, a work place, transport, means of communications, and so forth.

[Signed] E. Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze Restores National Guard

LD1410131693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1255 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi October 14 TASS—Georgian leader Eduard Shevarnadze issued a decree restoring the National Guard and appointing General Dzhemal Chumburidze as its commander.

The guards were restored "in connection with the difficult situation in western Georgia" dominated by supporters of ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia.

The guards were initially created by Gamsakhurdia and were under the command of former Deputy Premier and Defence Minister Tengiz Kitovani.

Kitovani, who by now has retained only his mandate of a lawmaker, was appointed honorary commander of the guard.

Shevardnadze Address Read at North Atlantic Assembly

LD1410162293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0800 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] From 7 to 11 October, an annual session of the North Atlantic Assembly was held in the Danish capital Copenhagen. A delegation of the Georgian Parliament, which included Tamaz Gamkrelidze, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission and Commission member Zurab Andriadze, took part in the session. Academician Tamaz Gamkrelidze made a speech at a sitting of the session familiarizing the session with Eduard Shevardnadze's address to the North Atlantic Assembly.

To His Excellency, Loic Bouvard, chairman of the North Atlantic Assembly.

Dear Mr. Chairman, I am happy to have an opportunity to address you and in your person the participants of the North Atlantic Assembly.

Recent events have made it evident that the imperial forces are not giving up their positions peacefully. I mean the organizers of August 1991 Moscow coup and their supporters from Tbilisi and Sukhumi. As in 1990, now, after the fall of Sukhumi, I again predicted that those forces were still alive and a vengeance attempt was inevitable. How soon this prediction came true.

It is not difficult at all to determine the same handwriting of the initiators of the recent bloodshed in Moscow, the authors of a tragedy in Abkhazia, and their supporters and instigators of a civil war in Western Georgia. They chose a single period of time and they had a single plan.

I draw the attention of the participants of the annual session to this because I would like to emphasize once again that the destruction of the empire was not followed by the destruction of imperial mentality. The latter is a long and painful process. It is accompanied by bloody agony.

Freshly arisen independent states are casting a hopeful gaze at the North Atlantic alliance as a guarantor of peace in Europe, and not only in Europe, and see a force in it capable of completing this process in a peaceful way.

As a full member of the international community, Georgia would be happy to cooperate with the North Atlantic Assembly and contribute to the building of a new, post-cold war Europe.

Yours sincerely, Eduard Shevardnadze.

In his speech given in response, North Atlantic Assembly President Loic Bouvard promised the Georgian delegation that the Republic of Georgia would be admitted as a member to the North Atlantic Assembly at one of its nearest sessions.

Shevardnadze Stresses Need for Georgia To Join CIS

LD1410192793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1324 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 14 Oct—Eduard Shevardnadze is stepping up his efforts to convince people in the republic of the need for Georgia to join the Commonwealth of Independent States. He has already consulted the scientific and technical intelligentsia about the insistent expediency of this step, and plans to hold a meeting with broad public circles in the capital.

In a public address at a meeting in Rustavi, which ended late on Thursday evening, Eduard Shevardnadze highlighted the two urgent aims of "Georgia's march toward the CIS." Politically, he said, it gives Georgia "a real chance of retaining the lost Abkhazia within its composition," since, as he pointed out, "the conflict in the autonomous republic was inspired by reactionary forces in Russia, led by the rebellious section of the White House."

As for the economy, Shevardnadze believes that entry into the CIS will enable Georgia's economy to be revived through the restoration of the previously existing economic links with the republics of the collapsed Union.

Foreign Minister Departs for UN Headquarters

LD1410130593 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaidze left for New York today, 14 October.

At the United Nations, on behalf of head of state Eduard Shevardnadze, he will submit a statement that includes propositions and considerations on what sort of assessments and practical inferences the Georgian people expect from this international organization in connection with the dreadful tragedy and the genocide that the Gudauta barbarians, and the murderers hired by them, inflicted on tens of thousands of our compatriots.

This information has been provided by the Georgian Foreign Ministry.

Estonia

President Yeltsin Expresses Gratitude for Support

WS1210123793 Tallinn ETA NEWS RELEASE in English 1927 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, October 11—Russia's President Boris Yeltsin on Monday [11 October] sent a message to President Lennart Meri expressing his gratitude for Estonia's support during the past critical days and confirming his determination to proceed economic reforms, democratisation and holding free parliamentary elections followed by presidential elections open to foreign observers. Russia will maintain its foreign policy with its priority being good neighbourly relations within the region, the message read.

President Meri Sums Up First Year in Office

LD0910085693 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0549 GMT 8 Oct 93

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] Estonian President Lennart Meri addressed the nation over television Thursday [7 October] on the occasion of his first year in office.

The president paid much attention to state security matters. Pointing to Estonia's stronger international position, he said that the republic's top priority task was to seek the withdrawal of Russian troops. He repeated his words spoken to U.S. President Bill Clinton during a meeting with him September, saying that Boris Yeltsin can now prove that his words are in line with his deeds. The easiest way to do so is in the Baltic region. The president said that the U.S. Administration believed its foreign policy priority to be the withdrawal of the Russian military from Latvia and Estonia. Meri expressed regret that inter-governmental negotiations with Russia had so far met with little success, which, according to him, spells danger.

Another step towards the republic's security is, according to Meri, the establishment of friendly relations with all countries in the world community. Speaking on European integration, he emphasized the importance of coordinated actions by the Baltic states in the areas of the economy and security.

The president complained that the government had reduced spending for the president's administration down to a level that rendered him unable to fulfill his duty as head of state. The president said he even had to purchase a Finnair ticket to the United States on credit.

Meri-Clinton Meeting Focused on Russian Troop Withdrawal

PM0810141393 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Oct 93 p 1

[Valeriy Gromak report from the "From Our Information Bureau" roundup: "Clinton 'Gave Green Light' to Withdrawal of Our Troops From Baltics"]

[Text] Upon returning from the United States, Estonian President Lennart-Georg Meri gave an interview to the newspaper POSTIMEES, in which he stated that he considers the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia's territory a priority and that this question was the focus of attention at a meeting between heads of the Baltic states and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The withdrawal of troops from the Baltic Region may take place as early as 1 January 1994. This deadline was set by Latvia and Estonia and, in the words of the head of the Estonian State, President Clinton "accepted" it.

Meri Says Russia Lacks Democratic Constitution

WS0810114493 Tallinn BNS in English 1853 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] TALLINN, Oct 07, BNS—The absence of a democratic constitution remains one of Russia's main problems, says Estonian President Lennart Meri.

In an interview on Finnish TV last night, the Estonian president said that the political crisis in Russia has been overcome and the country's most pressing problem now is how to overcome the economic crisis. Russia also needs to overcome its identity crisis, he said; it needs to determine what kind of country it is.

Meri disagreed with the suggestion that banning the opposition would make the elections undemocratic. The opposition, he said, is not banned in Russia. Rather, its authorities have banned fascist activities.

Meri Meets With EC Commission Vice President

WS0810141893 Tallinn BNS in English 1124 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] TALLINN, Oct 08, BNS—President Lennart Meri received Thursday [7 October] afternoon the vice president of the European Community Commission, Martin Bangemann, whose visit was arranged by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

The topics discussed at the meeting included the situation in the post-cold war world, the recent events in Russia and the EC policies in expanding the organization, the presidential press service reports.

Meri acquainted Bangemann with Estonia's domestic political situation, Estonia's policy toward resident noncitizens and cooperation plans of the three Baltic states for new energy systems.

Bangemann spoke highly of Estonia's remarkably quick economic and political progress, says an official press release of the presidential press service.

Laar: Polish Election Results May Halt NATO Expansion

WS1410110693 Tallinn BNS in English 1434 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, Oct 13, BNS—The Communists' election victory in Poland may shift NATO's position on plans for

expanding the organization, Estonian Prime Minister Mart Laar said in an interview to BNS.

"NATO may no longer take an interest in countries under communists' rule, and the new Polish Government, on the other hand, may not be interested in integration with NATO," Laar said. "This may put the brakes on NATO's expansion."

It's not likely that NATO will extend full membership to Central and East European countries any time soon, he said.

"It seems that NATO currently attaches more importance to forming an intermediate body to help those countries integrate into NATO without giving them a full-member status," Laar said.

"Possibly NATO will follow the same procedure as the Central and East European countries' integration into the European Community, where uniting takes place step by step through different agreements," Laar said. "But, this is going to take a long time."

The Estonian premier said, however, that his meetings with several premiers of NATO member states led him to believe that NATO's expansion to central and ea.. Europe has, in principle, been approved.

Laar was not particularly optimistic about plans to create a new security alliance on the basis of the former East European socialist countries and the Soviet republics.

"Such a union is likely to reduce stability in the region, rather than strengthen it," Laar said. In his opinion, the formation of a new security organization without Russia is, at present, not very expedient.

Leaders Receive Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister

LD1310104793 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 2000 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] President Lennart Meri today received Tian Zengpei, deputy foreign minister of the People's Republic of China. Sun Dadong, PRC ambassador to Estonia, also attended the talks. Tian Zengpei handed an invitation to the Estonian president from the leader of the People's Republic of China to pay a state visit next spring. The president accepted the invitation.

Tian Zengpei also met today with Defense Minister Juri Luik who is currently the acting foreign minister, and with Alar Olljum, chancellor in the Foreign Ministry.

Foreign Minister Meets Danish Counterpart

LD1110164993 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1400 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Today Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste met Danish Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen, who is currently visiting Estonia. During their meeting, they discussed the present state of Estonian-Danish relations and prospects for their development. They dwelled longer on the subject of the European Community. (?According to what Petersen said), his government supports Estonian [word indistinct] in every way.

European security issues were also under discussion [words indistinct] last week's events in Russia. The setting up of the so-called Danish House in Tallinn was also discussed.

The Danish foreign minister also had meetings with President Lennart Meri and Riigikogu Deputy Speaker Tunne Kelam. He had a discussion with representatives of the Human Rights Institute and the Russian-speakers Representative Assembly in Estonia. [sentence indistinct]

Meri Receives Dane

WS1210123993 Tallinn ETA NEWS RELEASE in English 1926 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, October 11—Denmark's Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen on his visit to Estonia met President Lennart Meri, Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste and visited the Estonian parliament.

The topics discussed included Estonian-Danish relations and perspectives, Estonian-Russian relations and Russian troop pullout as well as its influence to the stability in the Baltic region.

Denmark regards Estonia as a stable and democratic country, Petersen told a large audience in the Tallinn Press Centre following meetings with the authorities. Petersen also commented upon the disappearance of the Baltic countries from the front pages of international press and said it was a good sign reflecting stability in the region.

Interest in Estonia among Danish businessmen is growing as investments tend to flow to more stable areas, Petersen said. The Baltic states still have a special status due to Russian military presence in Estonia and Latvia, Petersen added. "We continue to press for rapid orderly and unconditional withdrawal of Russian troops," he said.

Touching upon the issue of minorities in Estonia, Petersen stressed it was a well-known fact that the country's legislation was "in general agreement with international standards" while adding there were problems between the government and the minorities. Sometimes governments should go an extra mile as there is a potential to evolve that might have negative influence on the whole region, Petersen said. There was, however, an underlying will on both parties to agree, he added.

Petersen, who also met representatives of Estonia's minorities, said Denmark had proposed independent centres for human rights in the Baltics to be set up in order to achieve viable durable solutions to minority problems. Denmark supports Estonia's closer ties with the European Community with full membership as an ultimate goal, Petersen said. The Baltic governments must provide economic framework for private enterprises to flourish which along with political background could turn the Baltic Sea region into a new economic growth zone, Petersen said.

Baltic-Russian negotiations on troop pullout are not proceeding rapidly with Russia having difficulties in accepting its responsibilities and the Baltic countries being reluctant in understanding the necessity for collaboration with Russia, Petersen said while adding it was a matter of importance to all countries in the Baltic Sea area.

Velliste Meets With Portuguese Counterpart in Lisbon

LD1310132793 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 2000 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste, who is on an official visit in Portugal, met Portuguese Foreign Minister Manuel Durao Barroso today. This has been reported by the Foreign Ministry's press service. Manuel Durao Barroso emphasized that Portugal supports in every way Estonia's strengthening its links with the European Community and the Russian troops' unconditional withdrawal from Estonia and Latvia.

Defense Ministry Takes Over Paldiski Harbor

LD1210163593 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1300 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] A Defense Ministry commission has taken over the southern harbor at the Paldiski base from the Russian Federation Navy. Edgar Haavik, a commission member and head of the naval department of the defense forces' headquarters, told ETA [Estonian Telegraph Agency] that the Russian Navy had pillaged the harbor. The commission will hand the southern harbor at Paldiski over to the [state run] Tallinn Port with a transfer document.

Aare Kitsing, the Tallinn Port Development director, said about the transfer that the best thing would be to bulldoze the premises and build the harbor from scratch. The northern harbor at Paldiski was taken over in August of this year.

Rifles Seized in Raid of Russian Army Base in Tallinn

WS1210123593 Tallinn ETA NEWS RELEASE in English 1719 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Tallinn, October 11—Three gunmen seized rifles, cartidges and possibly a bomb thrower in a raid to a Russian army base in Tallinn Sunday [10 October] night, the press office of the Tallinn Police Prefecture told ETA on Monday.

A guard at the Tondi base was knocked unconscious and another was held at gunpoint.

In a raid to Russia's mechanised army division, a total of 44 rifles and a small amount of cartridges was taken. A bomb thrower was also reported missing, the police said.

Estonia has been actively campaigning for Russian troop withdrawal from Estonia.

There are 3,790 Russian troops still residing in Estonia, 2,650 are officers and 1,150 soldiers, Juri Kork, head of the press office of the Estonian Defence Forces, told ETA.

Riigokogu Reelects Speaker, Deputy Speakers

LD1410142493 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1300 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Today a new board for the Riigikogu was elected. Ulo Nugis became again the Riigikogu speaker, with 82 deputies voting for him. Tunne Kelam and Edgar Savisaar will also be continuing as deputy speakers. They received 42 and 29 votes in favor respectively. Ignar Fjuk, the third candidate, received 20 votes in favor.

Events in Moscow Spur Anti-Communist Campaign

MK0810133193 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Oct 93 p 3

[Ilya Nikiforov report: "Anti-Communism Becomes Official Policy in Republic. Municipal Elections Drawing Near"]

[Text] The first, and thus far only, decree of the Estonian Government following the quelling of the armed actions in the capital of neighboring Russia was the ban on the distribution in Estonia of the newspapers PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, DEN, and other—as Prime Minister Mart Laar stated—"anti-Yeltsin publications." The Internal Affairs Ministry and police have been instructed to thwart activities of communist-oriented political parties and organizations on the territory of Estonia. "We will not permit communist-fascist activities on the territory of our country," Mart Laar told journalists.

One may suppose that the failed action of the Russian supporters of the Soviet system in Moscow will influence Estonia's internal life for a long time, and the ruling coalition will take full advantage of the current situation.

Today there are virtually no parties of a patently communist orientation in the republic, and the statement banning such may play perhaps a propaganda role and snatch part of the votes in the upcoming municipal elections on 17 October from the Democratic Party of Labor—successor to the Communist Party of Estonia. The Democratic Party of Labor has an impressive number of candidates in Tallinn and Narva; in Tartu, for example, members of the party are running on the Pensioners Union ticket.

"The anti-Soviet sentiments that have heightened among Russian leaders over recent days are extremely useful for Estonia," declared Estonian Defense Minister Juri Lujk in an interview on Estonian television.

According to the defense minister, the situation in Estonia's northeast remains calm. "Those who provoked tensions there in the summer were undoubtedly supporters of Ruslan Khasbulatov and Aleksandr Rutskoy. Today Rutskoy and Khasbulatov are finding themselves in an unpleasant situation, and their political star is falling," Lujk thinks.

Juri Lujk certified that Russian units stationed in Estonia kept their neutrality. According to Lujk, this happened even though the local commanders of the Russian units are finding themselves in a difficult position because "complete chaos prevails among their superiors in Moscow."

Everything that happened and is happening in Moscow today further spurs the diplomatic campaign of the Estonian Government for a speedy withdrawal of Russian troops, which number a little more than 3,000 "bayonets" in Estonia. This is what Estonian Republic President Lennart Meri said at the UN General Assembly session. The same will be said by the Estonian delegation that is leaving for Copenhagen for the 39th session of the North Atlantic Assembly. The session in Copenhagen is to decide in principle on the admission of new members to NATO. Estonia stands a chance.

New Population Minister Without Portfolio Sworn In

LD1210103093 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Work at today's Riigikogu session had a festive beginning to it. Peeter Olesk, population minister [new ministerial post, without portfolio] was sworn in. Next, the agenda was endorsed, and a bill on improvements to the law on state subsistence payments entered its second reading, with deputy Siiri Oviir delivering a report.

Government Dissolves Estonian Republican Bank

WS1310150193 Tallinn BNS in English 1938 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] TALLINN, Oct 12, BNS—The Estonian Government decided today to dissolve the Estonian Republican Bank of the USSR Bank for Industry and Construction. It charged the Finance Ministry with forming a liquidation commission. The commission's tasks include establishing the balance and property of the Soviet bank in 1990 and the assets currently owned by the Estonian Commercial Bank for Industry and Construction.

The Estonian bank was set up in February 1990 by a decree of the Tallinn Municipal Government and licensed by the Bank of Estonia. Its capital stock at its founding exceeded 10 million rubles. In the same year the Supreme Council ordered the government to dissolve the Soviet bank's branches in Estonia. But neither the government nor the central bank dealt with the Estonian Republican Bank.

The statutes of the Estonian bank do not state it is a legal successor of the Soviet bank, therefore the Soviet bank hasn't been officially dissolved. Its assets are used by the Estonian bank without any legal basis.

Justice Minister Kaido Kama claimed that the Estonian bank damaged the interests of the state by taking the law into its own hands and assuming control of the Soviet bank's assets. He said, however, that the Estonian commercial bank will not be liquidated and will continue. The process will only clear up the state's share in the bank and establish its owner's rights.

This is another bank whose ownership relations have come under government and Justice Ministry scrutiny. The Cabinet already increased the state's share in the Estonian Union Bank and the Polva People's Bank from 7 percent to 50 percent, and it challenged the sale of the Savings Bank's shares to Hansapank.

The next targets are the Estonian Social Bank and the Rural Bank, Kama said.

Latvia

Ulmanis Says Moscow, Riga 'Refrained From Harsh Words'

LD1110151393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1406 GMT 11 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga, October 11 (TASS)—Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis, who has returned from Vienna after attending a conference of the Council of Europe, in which Latvia has a guest status, gave a news conference on Monday devoted to the results of the visit.

He said that the Latvian parliament has begun debates on the bill on citizenship. The Council of Europe has sent its representatives to Latvia expected to bring the bill in line with the norms accepted in civilized countries, Ulmanis said.

He pointed out that passing the bill on citizenship is the most important task for the Latvian parliament today. Ulmanis said that he could see in Vienna that the attention of many countries was drawn to this problem and that Latvia's joining the Council of Europe depends on it.

The president noted with satisfaction that during the conference Russian and Latvian representatives had not exchanged harsh words, which gives hope for progress during bilateral talks.

Response To Russian Remarks on Baltics, NATO

LD1210213793 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1800 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] The Latvian foreign minister today issued a statement concerning the claims reported in the Russian mass media on 11 October, about the possible entry of the Baltic countries into the NATO at the same time as the Russian Federation.

The possible entry of Latvia into the NATO is our country's wish. But the decision on this issue will be up to the NATO itself. Reports that the Baltic countries could enter the NATO together with Russia are arbitrary interpretations by journalists and do not precisely reflect what was stated at a news conference by Guntis Ulmanis, the state president of the Republic of Latvia.

Russian Envoy Protests Banning of Organizations

LD1110091193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0623 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Tex] Riga October 11 ITAR-TASS—The Latvian Government's decision last week to ban the Latvian Union for the Protection of Rights of Veterans, the Association of Russian Citizens and the Union of Communists evoked protests.

"Latvian authorities have no grounds for banning us, and particularly, for accusing us of conspiracy", chairman of the Latvian veterans' Union Albert Lebedev said ahead of a news conference in Riga.

Nothing is known in the republic about the Union of Communists.

As concerns the association of Russian citizens, Russian Ambassador Aleksandr Rannikh said it was one of the major active organisations of ethnic Russians focusing on problems of social and economic character. Just as the Veterans' Union, which numbers about four thousand members, the average age of whom is close to seventy.

The newspaper "SM SEVODNYA" reports that the Russian ambassador discussed the ban of the Veterans' Union and the Association of Russian Citizens with the Latvian foreign minister. He expressed the hope that the Latvian leadership "will approach the matter with due responsibility because both associations protect the interests of an extensive category of individuals".

Economy Ministry To Boost Privatization

WS1310150693 Tallinn BNS in English 1329 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] RIGA, Oct 12, BNS—The Latvian Economy Ministry experts drafted a package of laws to speed the country's privatization process, said Privatization Minister Druvis Skulte.

Some documents provide a legal framework for the State Property Foundation, the others deal with the State Privatization Agency.

The laws should make the privatization process more central and should promote privatization of major industrial enterprises, said Skulte.

So far, industrial privatization has earned 700,000 lats, which will be used to credit industrial enterprises.

The issue of privatization is closely linked to the extension of privatization vouchers to Latvian residents, spokespeople said.

According to plans, people may use their vouchers to privatize land and flats, and to purchase shares of state-run industrial enterprises.

Skulte says that 25 percent of shares of each privatized state enterprise will be sold for vouchers. People with privatization vouchers are free to create investment foundations to participate in the "big" privatization, Skulte said.

The Economics Ministry specialists also ruled that if a legitimate former owner fails to surface within two months of a privatization announcement in the government newspaper, LATVIJAS VESTNESIS, the property will be privatized as usual.

"We are not rich enough to wait for five or 10 years," said Skulte.

Lithuania

RESPUBLIKA's Editor Shot, Killed Outside Home

LD1210122993 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1000 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Report by Vytas Usas from the parliament radio studio]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Usas] The plenary session of the Lithuanian Seimas began with sad news from Egidijus Bickauskas, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas [parliament]:

[Begin Bickauskas recording] Vytas Lingys, deputy editor-in-chief of the daily RESPUBLIKA, was killed outside his house with three shots to the head this morning at 0850 [0650 GMT].

I think that this is a direct strike at democracy in Lithuania. I call on you to observe a moment of silence in memory of Vytas Lingys. [end recording]

[Usas] Several minutes ago an urgent session was held at the president's office. The session was attended by Arturas Paulauskas, procurator general; Jurgis Jurgelis, head of the national security service; Jonas Prapiestis, minister of justice; heads of departments at the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and other high-ranking state officials. This session had not been on the president's agenda. However, Raimondas Rajackas, chief adviser to the president, did not confirm that the session was directly linked with the murder of Vytas Lingys.

Nerijus Maliukevicius, the president's spokesman for the press, did not give any information about what was discussed in the president's office. He expressed the personal view that this terrible incident is an attempt to strike a blow at the very foundations of the state. If any new information becomes available on the issue I will present it to you in forthcoming programs. [passage omitted]

Information on Shooting Witheld

LD1210195393 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] According to unofficial information, the murder of Vytas Lingys was discussed today in the president's office by the heads of the law enforcement institutions. After the meeting, Justice Minister Jonas Prapiestis told ELTA

[Lithuanian news agency] that it has been so far decided to not supply journalists with any information.

According to ELTA, Internal Affairs Minister Romasis Vaitiekunas is returning from vacation because of this event.

ELTA was informed in the RESPUBLIKA editorial office that Vytas Lingys had been leading the work of the Law and Order Department at the editorial office. Although lately he did not write any articles himself, he was taking an active part in the preparation of publications on this topic. Editorial office officials noted that after the publication of articles in the newspaper about the criminal world, threats used to be addressed to journalists. They also recalled that a country house belonging to Vytas Lingys in Ukmerge District was burned down one and a half years ago.

The Lithuanian National Security Service has confirmed to ELTA that, according to available information, the republic's leaders and journalists have been threatened more than once because of articles published in this newspaper on the topics of law and order.

Seimas Deputy Chairman's Reaction

LD1210195293 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1100 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Report by Baltic News Service]

[Text] Seimas Deputy Chairman Egidijus Bickauskas has informed members of Seimas at the plenary session about the murder. He regarded it as a direct encroachment on the foundations of Lithuanian democracy.

We think that this is a blow to the whole caste of journalists and of the press, because the press has been one of the real means of combating corruption and crimes, said Vytas Staselis. He stressed that it was Vytas Lingys that was leading these topics in the RESPUBLIKA.

Landsbergis Urges 'Specific Policy' Toward Kaliningrad

WS1210125493 Tallinn BNS in English 1909 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Vilnius, Oct 11, BNS—Vytautas Landsbergis, leader of the rightist opposition of the Lithuanian parliament, says Lithuania should form a specific policy toward the Kaliningrad region of Russia.

The militarized region is "a strategic arm that embraces Lithuania," Landsbergis said at a press conference Monday [11 October]. The opposition leader noted that his statement does not intend any confrontation with Russia.

He also emphasized the need for Lithuania to join with stable Western democracies because the political situation in Russia is unclear and nobody can say what it will be in the nearest future.

That obliges Lithuania to discuss the future of the Kaliningrad region both in confidential and official policies, Landsbergis said. He added that a number of people in the region, including the military, consider Kaliningrad a Baltic state. It is necessary, he said, to observe the region's evolution without exciting any protests.

Landsbergis said he was pleased that the need to demilitarize the Kaliningrad region was mentioned during President Algirdas Brazauskas' speech in the United Nations. The opposition leader noted that "the head of the Kaliningrad administration, Yuri Matochkin, has already spoken about this and indicates only technical problems."

Communist Groups 'Inactive' During Moscow Unrest

WS1110132493 Vilnius ELTA in Lithuanian 1136 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Lithuanian pro-communists were inactive and did not come out from the underground during the recent unrest in Moscow. According to the police and the National Security Service, there are several underground communist groups operating in Vilnius. However, the services did not note any increase in the pro-communist groups' recent activities or register any unsanctioned moves. The information that a group of pro-communist Lithuanian residents had left for Moscow to participate in the fighting on the side of the Russian legislature is not officially confirmed. The activities of communist organizations in Lithuania is prohibited by law.

The only action against the propagators of communist views was conducted in Vilnius: One of them was arrested for selling the banned communist newspapers PRAVDA, DEN, and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIJA, among others. The police punished him with a 20-litai ($5) fine for trading in an incorrect place and then released him.

Ambassador to EC Rejects NATO Membership as 'Unrealistic'

LD1210222093 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas received Adolfas Venskus, the Lithuanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary for the European Community and NATO today. Their meeting was attended by Justas Paleckis, presidential adviser on foreign policy. The possibilities of Lithuania's integration into European political and economic structures and details of the forthcoming visit by the president to NATO and the European Community were discussed. It is expected that on this occasion the president will visit Belgium and Holland. Speaking of Lithuania joining NATO, which is currently being extensively discussed in Lithuania, Ambassador Venskus said that in his view, this is completely unrealistic at present. Seimas Chairman Ceslovas Jersenas met with Venskus.